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# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXVIII, No. 41

Section 1

March 1, 1938

RELIEF BILL PASSED      The \$250,000,000 Deficiency Relief Bill passed its final hurdles in Congress yesterday and awaited only formal engrossing to be passed on to President Roosevelt for his signature. This appropriation differs from all other large ones before Congress in that it supplies money to be expended prior to June 30 instead of for the next fiscal year. Final passage of the act was accomplished by the Senate's acceptance of a controversial House amendment, forcing relief authorities to allocate total funds in hand for expenditure by months, instead of leaving them free to spend the money at their own discretion. (New York Times.)

SUPERHIGHWAYS BILL COMMENT      M. L. Wilson, Under-Secretary of Agriculture, wrote Senator McKellar yesterday that his proposal to construct, "superhighways" across the nation, to be financed by tolls, "would not be in accord with the program of the President." Mr. McKellar, who is chairman of the Roads Committee, has pending a bill that would create a highway planning commission of five members who would first investigate the possibility of constructing a through highway from Washington to New York City. The planning board would then study the feasibility of three eastward and three north-south transcontinental routes. (Associated Press.)

NICARAGUAN LOCUST PLAGUE      A Managua cable to the New York Times says Nicaragua for the second time in six months has been invaded by locusts when a swarm twenty-four miles long and half a mile wide passed over Masaya day before yesterday, obscuring the sun. Local leaders called out 600 men from the army to drive out the swarm, but in a short time the locusts had destroyed several hundred acres of corn, beans, wheat and pastureland on a hacienda. Locusts arriving in the dry season presage a large influx during the wet season when the crops are growing, and agriculturists are worried over the early arrival of the pest. Last year the government spent more than 50,000 cordobas to destroy the plague, with some success. Sea gulls also destroyed large swarms of locusts last year.

NEW ZEALAND TARIFFS      A Wellington, New Zealand, report by the Canadian Press says Finance Minister Walter Nash yesterday announced a number of tariff revisions, including duties against Canadian imports. He declared the increasing volume of imports necessitated further protection for New Zealand industries and paid tribute to the good will of the Canadian Government in consenting to the changes.



## Section 2

Farm Article            The New York Times Magazine (February 27) contains  
"The Vast Empire of Our Agriculture--The Domain the Government Seeks to Rule Never Lacks Growing Crops" by Dundan Aikman.

California            "California", says Walter Warren in the San Francisco  
Truck            Call Bulletin (February 17), "may yet set a new record in  
Prospect            vegetable production this year, despite recent storm  
damage, a survey by the state crop reporting service indicated recently. A few days of sunshine, Carl Schiller of the truck crops division reported, will permit badly needed cultivation. After that it will take some time to determine the full extent of the long rainy spell ended a few weeks ago, but most reports indicates less damage than had at first been supposed...."

Louisiana            Sam Trufant, in New Orleans Times Picayune (February 20) says that "despite freeze damage which reached considerable proportions in the belt following wintry blasts in November and December and a labor shortage which left approximately 65 percent of the crop vulnerable, the sugar output in Louisiana from the 1937-38 crop is the largest in the history of the industry, Signed reports to the American Sugar Cane League showed that production of sugar reduced to short tons amounted to 400,113 tons. Cane ground at factories totaled 5,295,268 tons... Growers are now wrestling with the problem of milling undercapacity, which hampered many sections of the best in the past season, and the government is continuing the search for new canetypes with greater freeze resistance. The industry is optimistic for steadily mounting production for future seasons..."

Cooperator            The Journal of Political Economy (February) contains  
Elevator            "The North Dakota State Mill and Elevator" by Gilbert W. Cooke, Bowling Green State University. He refers to it as "an outstanding example in the United States of governmental operation of an industrial enterprise."

New Test            "A new and more accurate soil test for available potassium is now available for farmers as a result of improvements which have just been made in the test first developed a number of years ago by R. H. Brady, assistant chief in soil survey analysis and other research workers at the University of Illinois," says F. J. Keilholz in Country Gentleman (March). "Improvements in the test are especially timely because of the increasing need for potash which is developing throughout the Corn Belt. The test is not one that farmers generally can use themselves unless they wish to specialize in such processes. However, testing kits are being manufactured for the use of county farm advisers in Illinois. Farmers can also send their soil samples to the experiment station through their local county advisers. Other states, notably Indiana and Wisconsin, have developed tests based on the original Illinois research by means of which they will serve farmers."



**Civil Service**            The Civil Service Commission announces the following examinations: principal marketing specialist, \$5,600; senior marketing specialist \$4,600; marketing specialist, \$3,800; associate marketing specialist, \$3,200; assistant marketing specialist, \$2,600, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, unassembled; associate agronomist and superintendent, \$3,200;

assistant agronomist (sugar beet investigations) \$2,600; assistant plant physiologist (sugar beet investigations) \$2,600; Bureau of Plant Industry, unassembled; junior veterinarian \$2,000, Bureau of Animal Industry, assembled. Applications must be on hand not later than (a) March 28, if received from states other than those named in (b) below; (b) March 31, if received from the following states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.

**Articles**                Nation's Business (March) contains "Uncle Sam Eyes Futures Trading" by Herbert M. Pratter; "Land Ownership Won't Make Smart Farmers" by J. Gilbert Hill; "Farm Income--the Tie That Binds"; "Ice Plant Holds Hillsides--Beautifies Roadsides" by Kyber Forrester; "Light on a National Problem" (lighting highways) by E. M. Rice.

**Crusher Kills**            Water hyacinth, one of the worst obstacles to navigation in waters of the South, can be successfully kept in control by a new type of crusher tested out during the past season by the U.S. Army Engineer Corps, says a New Orleans report to Science Service. The new boat mounts a wide conveyor belt forward. This scoops up the floating plants and carries them up and back to a hopper. From there they fall between heavy corrugated rollers which crush them flat. The pulped remains, washed overboard through a pipe, sink to the bottom and decay. Hitherto water hyacinth destruction has been carried out by poison sprays. These, however, are dangerous.

**Machinery for Farms**            Prof. H. B. Walker, head of the agricultural engineering division of the University of California, sees the labor problem as the greatest cause for a growing interest of farmers in machinery to do their work. "Fixed charges in farm production always have been relatively high," he says. "Hitherto, there were mainly the price of land and taxes. But now the tendency to encourage legislation toward fixing maximum hours of wages and minimum pay rates has tended toward the introduction of another fixed charge in all production--wages." The only way out is to substitute machinery for men wherever possible. Inasmuch as certain crops are vulnerable to strikes, the farmer must of necessity turn to labor-displacing means over which he has control. (New York Times, February 20.)

### Antirrhinum Rust Tests

A report on antirrhinum rust tests at Wisley (England) by T. E. Green appears in the Journal of the Royal Horticultural Society (December). It includes experiments with fungicides. "In America," he says, "they favor the use of sulphur". His experiments indicated that only copper-containing sprays were effective in the trials. He tested resistant strains from America and found them up to the claims for percentage of resistance, but produced poor-colored flowers. "The American workers say that the resistant factor is a simple and dormant one...so we ought to be able to get the resistant factor into better flowered plants." A postscript on the 1937 tests showed two strains from American seed free from rust and from 73 to 91 percent resistant in six other stocks."

### Mt. Washington Observatory

"Settled in its comfortable new building on the summit of Mount Washington, the Mount Washington Observatory today seems more assured of permanency than at any time since it was established as a pioneer<sup>report</sup> venture five winters ago," reports Gwendoline Keene, in a Pinkham Notch<sup>report</sup> to the New York Times. "Support, both public and private, is coming from many sources. The staff, which began as three, now numbers five. The U.S. Weather Bureau, which has constituted the observatory an Airways Weather Station, employs one member and pays for the part-time services of two...The winter work has been largely confined to routine weather reporting, but it now seems possible that meteorological research also may be carried on...The observatory is supported jointly by the Weather Bureau, Harvard's Blue Hill Meteorological Observatory, the State of New Hampshire, and other organizations and individuals, including more than 400 members of the Observatory Corporation."

### Rural Arts and Crafts

"Country art has come into its own at last," says Margery Currey in the Country Home (March). "If you could have seen the gorgeous collection of rural arts and crafts at the exhibition held recently in connection with the Department of Agriculture's seventy-fifth Anniversary, you would not be surprised that discerning critics have awarded it honors on every count...From farms, mountain districts and small villages the entries poured in. Many were homely articles of everyday use, given grace and beauty by their makers. Many were ingenious decorative objects, created with imagination and executed with fine workmanship. One of the most engaging exhibits came from the knives of clever whittlers...The beautifully hand-dyed and woven fabrics that attracted such instant attention were made by women who take keen delight in blending colors to create unusual wall hangings, rugs, coverlets, cushions and hand bags. So, too, was the sturdy and graceful furniture made by devoted craftsmen and the wrought-iron fireplace fittings...The nation-wide enthusiasm has spurred an attempt to establish a more permanent display...All of us who know and appreciate countrymen's skill will expect to find the National Rural Arts Exhibition one of the biggest drawing cards of the world's Fair in 1939."



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Vol. LXVIII, No. 42

Section 1

March 2, 1938

## EMPLOYMENT TESTIMONY

"Continuing his testimony before the Senate Committee on Unemployment yesterday, Bernard M. Baruch said he was opposed to attacks on the business system on a broad front for the sole purpose of breaking it into smaller pieces, but that he favored establishing precise definitions of monopolistic practices and vigorous prosecution of all who transgressed the rules" reports Louis Stark in the New York Times. "'To the extent that there are abuses in big and little business let us regulate and drive them out of existence,' he said, 'but to reach a few malefactors or a few chiselers who do not accede to the requirements of the general welfare let us not throw away the benefits of our economy or burn our house down to kill a few bats in the attic.'....."

## GOVERNMENT

A fight by a strong minority of Democrats and the handful of Republicans against the Administration Reorganization Bill opened in the Senate yesterday with a speech by Senator Byrd, who denounced the measure as totally ineffective from an economy standpoint and a unnecessary delegation of power to the President. "In effect, what we are doing," he said, "is surrendering the majority rule of Congress over the functions of the government--not only over the administrative duties of government, but over the policies and functions of government--for a period until July 1, 1940." (New York Times.)

## BUSINESS AND WORLD TRADE

The American business recession was seen yesterday by Sir Josiah Stamp, British economist, as the immediate and "most important" factor affecting world trade. Addressing the British Empire Chamber of Commerce in New York City, Sir Josiah analyzed some "Key Factors in the Economic Outlook" and said: "If I had to pick out an immediate factor with the widest possible effects I would say that the American recession, or depression, if you think it has reached that degree, is the most important because it is the most far reaching. It is, of course, highly important to you, but it also affects world prospects because it has an effect on trade activity and confidence abroad and also on the prospects of a successful outcome of the trade discussions." (Press.)

## GOVERNMENT FILM TALK

Pare Lorentz, director of "The River" and "The Plow That Broke the Plains," Government-produced documentary films, will discuss "The Movies Write History" Sunday afternoon at the Washington Hotel, Washington, D.C., under the auspices of the Modern Forum. Oglethorpe University has requested "stills" from Mr. Lorentz's two pictures for preservation in vaults at the institution in order that archeologists of future centuries may have views of America in 1937 and 1938. (Washington Star.)



"Making Democracy Work" Secretary Wallace contributes "Making Democracy Work" to Common Sense (March). He says in part: "When I first came to Washington, I was greatly impressed with the efficiency of the bureaucratic organization which had long been entrenched there. The New Deal threw on the various bureaus an enormous load. These old line bureaus put their shoulders under the load and carried it remarkably well. As time has gone on, I have speculated more and more as to the relative merits of the bureaucratic type of organization which characterizes most departments in Washington, and the staff type which characterizes the War Department. As a part of making government in Washington more efficient, I feel there is much to be said for combining the staff type of organization with the bureaucratic. It seems to me that a new governmental profession is in the process of being created. We might perhaps call the men who work at this profession 'experts in coordination.' Bureaucrats, even in the good sense of the term, are not often experts along this line. They tend to think in channels of responsibilities and prerogatives. They need oftentimes to be lifted in their thinking out of the concept of 'What is best for their bureau' to 'What is best for the general welfare'. When I say this, however, I wish to make the statement that I have the highest admiration for the average Washington so-called bureaucrat. But I am also convinced that men trained to work out problems of coordination can be of the utmost service to the bureaucrats themselves as well as to the country as a whole."

Synthetic Rubber The Rev. Dr. Julius A. Nieuwland, late dean of the College of Science of Notre Dame University and renowned for his synthesis of rubber, has just been post-humously awarded a patent for a new chemical compound--a catalytic agent--which may play an important part in the commercial manufacture of synthetic rubber. Co-inventor with Dr. Nieuwland is Frank J. Sowa, also of Notre Dame. The patent is assigned to E.I. du Pont de Nemours & Company. The inventors named the new catalytic agent "dihydroxyfluoboric acid". It is a derivative of the element boron. (New York Times.)

Superhighways Pictured Engineers in designing highways of the future must bear in mind that the country no longer is in the "horse and buggy" age, Dr. Miller McClintock of Harvard University told the Engineering Institute of Canada at London, Ontario, recently. New thoroughfares must be able to carry much more expeditiously the ever increasing volume of "through" or long trip traffic, he said. Dr. McClintock pictured a system of superhighways extending throughout Canada and the United States. Engineers of both countries already are working toward that end, he said. "If there is one basic fault in the highway system of our two countries it is this: they were built to handle local traffic. At the present time, however, the large part of traffic using our roads is moving from a certain point to a distant point." (Press.)



Foreign Trade      The United States' excess of exports over imports, Balance      a favorable trade balance, continued to increase in January, further reversing the situation that existed a year ago, the Department of Commerce reports. The excess of merchandise exports in January, according to the preliminary figures, was \$118,674,000. In January 1937, there was an excess of imports of \$17,787,000. In December, the excess of exports was \$110,390,000. Illustrating the changing trade trend, the report said, January merchandise exports were 69 percent greater in value than imports, a considerable reversal from January 1937, when exports were 7 percent smaller in value than imports. (Press.)

Senate,      The Senate began debate on the reorganization bill  
Feb. 28      (S. 3331) (pp. 3400-3422). Messrs. George, Walsh and O'Mahoney submitted amendments to the bill (p. 3393).

The Senate passed without amendment H.R. 9361, to maintain unimpaired the capital of the Commodity Credit Corporation at \$100,000,000 (pp. 3437-3438). This bill will now be sent to the President.

Messrs. Adams, Glass, McKellar, Hayden, Byrnes, Hale and Townsend were appointed Senate conferees on the First Deficiency Appropriation Bill for 1938 (H.R. 9306) (p. 3422). Messrs. Taylor of Colorado, Woodrum, Boylan of New York, Cannon of Missouri, Ludlow, Taber and Bacon were appointed House conferees on the bill (p. 3353).

\*

House,      The House continued debate on the Interior Department  
Feb. 28      Appropriation Bill for 1939 (H.R. 9621) (pp. 3353 and 3359-3386). Mr. Rich criticized the Departments of Interior and Agriculture for expenditures for printing and other information activities and for the administration of grazing lands (pp. 3362-3363, 3366-3367 and 3368-3370).

The House received from the President drafts of proposed provisions making available \$20,000,000 for capital stock of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation and \$6,000,000 to cover operating and administrative expenses of the Corporation (H.Doc. 531) (p. 3387); referred Committee on Appropriations.

The House received from the President an estimate of appropriation for conservation and use of agricultural land resources, in substitution of the estimate submitted in the 1939 Budget (H.Doc. 532) (p. 3388); referred Committee on Appropriations.

Items in appendix: extension of remarks of Mr. Lea of California on H.R. 9580, for forest protection against the white pine blister rust (pp. 3456-3457); speech by Mr. McFarlane in the House January 13 on "Monopolies, the Supreme Court and the People" (pp. 3476-3482); brief filed with Committee for Reciprocity Information by American Federation of Textile Operatives, opposing any trade agreement which would reduce tariff rates on imports of cotton cloth (p. 3474). (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

\*Mr. McKellar inserted the text of S. 3211, to provide for a plan for construction of through highways in the United States together with the Department of Agriculture on the bill (pp 3393-3398.)



Grassland Research Needed      Scientific Monthly (March) includes an article, "Need for Research on Grasslands" by Herbert C. Hanson and C. T. Vorhies, North Dakota Agricultural College and University of Arizona, based on the report to the National Research Council by the Committee for the Study of the Ecology of Grasslands of North America. One paragraph says: "Land planning must remain inadequate, short-sighted and wasteful of biological and soil resources until there is much more complete knowledge of grasslands and their fauna than we now possess. In spite of this great need for dependable facts and principles there is now no provision in the United States for studying grasslands in a thoroughly basic manner over a long period of years. This kind of study requires setting aside for a long period of years tracts of adequate size for the sole purpose of acquiring thorough knowledge of grasslands; it requires, in addition, suitable support for a competent staff of investigators."

"Six-Book Shelf" for Farmer      In Farm Journal (February) Irvin J. Mathews, a former county agent, now a farmer, lists the "six-book shelf" which he regards as "the most valuable ones to have as a dirt farmer's library". They are: Feeds and Feeding by Morrison; Fertilizers and Crops by Van Slyke; Farm and Garden Rule Book by Bailey; Common Diseases of Farm Animals by Craig; Farm Machinery and Equipment by Smith; Farm Gas Engines and Tractors by Jones.

Highway Signs Removed      The Pennsylvania Department of Highways removed nearly 73,000 illegal signs from state highways last year in line with its drive to assure maximum safety for motorists. Secretary of Highways Warren Van Dyke says that illegal signs endanger motorists and tourists by lessening sight distances and by obstructing vision at curves and intersections. Illegal signs, as defined by the department, are those erected within the limits of the state highways' right-of-way without permission and those within or without the right-of-way which are similar to or in imitation of official signs. The campaign is directed against small cardboards, cloth, tin, steel, and wood signs, designating highway directions or bearing advertising matter. (Press.)

Government's Rare Old Maps      The Division of Maps and Charts of the National Archives has made much progress toward placing scattered federal map records in a central depository, says correspondence in the New York Times. The search for governmental records has exhumed many maps and charts of historical significance; and as they are discovered in attic and cellar they are turned over to the Division of Maps and Charts as part of one central collection. The Senate's papers have provided a rich harvest of 750 early maps and 50 atlases. Maps covering later developments in American history are also considered valuable. In this category fall maps in the records of the Food Administration showing the famine relief areas in Europe during the World War and shortly afterwards.



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Vol. LXVIII, No. 43

Section 1

March 3, 1938

**FARM PROBLEM DISCUSSION** The first public response by the Administration to testimony of Bernard M. Baruch before the Senate Unemployment Committee came yesterday from Secretary Wallace. The financier's suggestions for solving the farm problem were denounced as essentially those advocated in 1936 by Alfred M. Landon and would result, the Secretary said, in the complete regimentation of business and agriculture. Of Mr. Baruch's general discussion of the farm problem the Secretary had nothing but praise, terming it a "splendid philosophical statement." Primarily, the Secretary criticized Mr. Baruch's advocacy of an export subsidy system and the abandonment of production and marketing control. Secretary Hull's reciprocal trading program would be wrecked, further efforts to conserve the soil would be defeated, and the entire agricultural movement discredited in a few years, Mr. Wallace contended. (New York Times.)

**SUPERHIGHWAY BILL SETBACK** The \$8,000,000,000 superhighway program sponsored by Senator Bulkley and having the interest if not specific approval of President Roosevelt received a setback yesterday in a Senate vote on a technicality which virtually removed it from the realm of active legislation. The Senate adopted, by a vote of 38 to 36, a motion by Chairman McKellar of the Senate Committee on Postoffices and Post Roads, to discharge the bill from consideration by the Banking and Currency Committee and give it to the McKellar committee. Senator McKellar indicated that his committee would report out a recommendation for a study of the project. (Press.)

**GRAIN TRADING DECREASES** Volume of trading in grain futures on the Board of Trade has declined to the lowest level in two years, according to Commodity Exchange Commission statistics yesterday in a Chicago report by the Associated Press. Trading in February totaled 424,102,000 bushels, compared with 693,096,000 in January and 906,936,000 in February last year. Average daily trade was 19,277,000 bushels, compared with 41,225,000 in February, 1937. Trade authorities pointed out that lethargy in the grain trade is not unusual at this time of the season.

**BANK BILL** A bill for Government controls on bank-holding companies reached the Senate yesterday under sponsorship of Senators Glass and McAdoo. The bill would prevent creation of any additional bank-holding companies, would prohibit existing companies from acquiring control of additional banks and would impose numerous restrictions on their operations. (Washington Post.)



Protection Business Week (February 26) reports that organized  
for Truckmen truckmen want an amendment to the (motor carrier) law  
authorizing the ICC to prescribe <sup>size</sup> and-weight limitations  
for national application. Several other amendments also will be proposed.  
Truckmen admit that the commission, considering the obstacles, has done  
a good job. Development of the pneumatic tire for trucks and extensive  
interconnection of highways occurred only a few years before the depres-  
sion. It was the concurrence of these two factors that give birth to  
the industry but it actually did its growing in the depression years...  
The motor carrier act has stabilized the truck rate structure. About 85  
percent of over-the-road tonnage now is hauled by common carriers which  
are members of tariff publishing bureaus. Rates are generally higher  
than rail rates, but weight ~~classifications~~ favoring small shipments  
give the advantage to the trucks..."

Refrigerated Terry Mitchell, writing in Refrigerating Engineering  
Food Lockers (March) on refrigerated food lockers, says in part:

"Refrigerated food lockers are growing in importance so  
rapidly that an exchange of ideas between users and operators in dif-  
ferent towns is of distinct value. In Iowa there is a refrigerated  
locker association. Packing houses favor the growth of locker systems  
because they mean an outlet for large cuts of meat, such as quarters  
and halves...Studies show that about 200 lockers is the minimum number  
that can be operated successfully in the average place. A complete in-  
stallation, including the building, insulation, machinery, piping, auto-  
matic controls, power, lockers, meat blocks, scales, tracks, butcher  
tools, etc., costs from \$15 to \$30 a locker. In some towns there are  
now as many as four different locker systems and certain managers have  
established chains of locker plants. In these the cutting and quick  
freezing is all done at a central place, the locker rooms in outlying  
towns merely being for storage purposes. The owners of gas stations  
have found that much trade can be attracted if a locker system can be  
installed alongside, and creameries have capitalized upon lockers in  
somewhat the same way."

Scientific New financial encouragement for scientific work will  
Foundation soon be forthcoming as a result of the endowment by Dr.  
and Mrs. Alex L. Wenner-Gren, of a \$1,000,000,000 founda-  
tion to be known as the Wenner-Gren Society, for furthering scientific  
research. Dr. Wenner-Gren, Swedish industrialist, has donated 25,000,-  
000 Swedish kroner (\$1,000,000) in bonds and securities yielding over  
1,000,000 kroner (\$40,000) a year, as the society's endowment. Natural  
sciences, medicine, economic and social problems will be the chief con-  
cern of the society. (Science News Letter, February 26.)

Senate, The Senate continued debate on the reorganization  
Mar. 1 bill (S. 3331) (pp. 3503-3531 and 3536-3540). Mr. Reames  
submitted an amendment (p. 3487).

The Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry reported without amendment S.J.Res. 256, amending Public Resolution No. 20, 75th Congress, authorizing an annual appropriation of \$2,000,000 for control of insect and plant pests (p. 3486). The joint resolution places no limitation on the sums appropriated.

Mr. Barkley plans to take up (March 2) and dispose of Mr. McKellar's motion to transfer S. 3428 (relating to transcontinental highways) from the Committee on Banking and Currency to the Committee on Post Offices and Roads (p. 3539).

House, Mar. 1

The House continued debate on the Interior Department Appropriation Bill (H.R. 9621) (3546-3570) (p. 3546).

The House Committee on Ways and Means reported without amendment H.R. 9682 to provide revenue, equalize taxation, etc. (H.Rept. 1860) (p. 3543).

Bill introduced: by Mr. Celler, H.R. 9691 to protect veterans' preferences under the civil service laws; referred Committee on Civil Service.

Item in appendix: radio address by Mr. Smith, March 1, explaining the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (pp. 3574-3576). (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Long-Range Forecasts Science is hopeful that it will not be long before it will be possible to predict--a year or more in advance--the coming of hot and cold seasons or wet and dry periods. Dr. Harlan T. Stetson, astronomer and research associate of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, said recently in a lecture: "That weather changes accompany changes in solar radiation has been frequently shown through the series of observations made at the Smithsonian Institution. Enough has been done already to hold out hope that with a more thorough understanding of the solar cycle and the absorption of solar radiation taking place in the earth's atmosphere, it will not be long before predictions of hot and cold seasons, wet and dry periods, may be made a year or more in advance with a more creditable score of hits than can be done at present. All this emphasizes the importance of predicting sunspots. Present indications are that sunspot numbers are now near the top of the so-called 11-year cycle..."



Tuberculosis                    The Canadian Public Health Journal (February)  
in Country                    contains "The Control of Tuberculosis in Rural Areas"  
                                 an address by Reginald M. Atwater, Executive Secretary,  
American Public Health Association. He says in the last paragraph:  
"It seems reasonable to assert, therefore, what when rural tuberculosis  
is thus regarded as a special problem and is considered in the light  
of its own epidemiology, the control measures based on the actual situa-  
tion can be made effective without undue effort. There is reason also  
to believe that the control of rural tuberculosis is one of the most  
productive measures from the social welfare standpoint that is open to  
the rural officer of health, rather than the opposite as one would guess  
from studying what most rural health departments are doing about tuber-  
culosis. We may also say that the procedures approved in general for  
tuberculosis control land themselves very well indeed to the special sit-  
uation of rural areas."

Improved                    "The demand for milk cooling steadily grows and like-  
Milk Cooler                   wise the improvement of mechanical coolers has been marked,"  
                                 says R. U. Blasingame, Pennsylvania State College, in  
Country Gentlemen (March). "...Now comes a new system, in which the wat-  
er in the milk itself serves as refrigerant. Recent experiments at the  
Pennsylvania State College have taken this unusual direction, using a  
vacuum within the can to evaporate a small amount of the milk and there-  
by cool it. The warm milk was strained into a jacketed 10-gallon can,  
an airtight lid provided and a vacuum pump attached to reduce the pres-  
sure within. It took an electric motor five and one half hours, using  
3.13 kilowatt hours' current, to cool the milk by this method from 88  
to 51 degrees. Such methods are too slow and inefficient to compete  
with water-vat type of coolers, but hold enough promise to encourage  
further development..."

Farm-To-Market                "The future of the Missouri highways for many years  
Highways                    to come is now being considered by the Citizens' Road  
                                 Association," says an editorial in the Kansas City Star  
(February 26). "A plan and, probably, a new constitutional amendment  
should be offered the voters next November along with the 3-cent gaso-  
line tax proposition...Some 6,500 miles of farm-to-market roads have been  
constructed, with nearly a year to go for the completion of the plan...  
There are still gaps in the farm-to-market system that should be elimin-  
ated. A survey now completed by the Bureau of Public Roads is expected  
to show the need for additional building. However, the time seems to  
have come for considering the needs of the state in terms of travel in-  
stead of counties..."

Tree Seed                    More than a million pounds of tree seed have been  
                                 collected by CCC members at six soil conservation camps,  
the regional headquarters reported recently. Camp groups in Pennsyl-  
vania, New York, New Jersey, Maryland and West Virginia helped several  
hundred farmers put 30 types of erosion control work into effect. (A.P.)



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Vol. LXVIII, No. 44

Section 1

March 4, 1938

**FARM LANDS FLOODED** Southern California's toll of dead and missing in the flood disaster reached 144 yesterday as paralyzed Los Angeles struggled to restore public services and survey the full loss from a record-breaking storm. The homeless were estimated at nearly 20,000 in the five affected counties--Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and Ventura. All was silent in the Delta Land of the wildest river of the flood, the Santa Ana. The last ten miles of its drainage area, one of the most productive regions agriculturally in the United States, was a muddy lagoon. (Associated Press.)

**INDUSTRIAL BUREAU URGED** The permanent establishment of a Bureau of Industrial Economics in the Department of Commerce was proposed last night by Donald R. Richberg, former NRA administrator, as an immediate step forward in the direction of industrial self-government, for which he has been campaigning since his attendance last January at President Roosevelt's conference with a group of business leaders. Speaking under the auspices of the drug, chemical and allied trades section of the New York Board of Trade, Mr. Richberg contended that such a bureau would help control our industrial machine. (New York Times.)

**COTTON USE PROGRAM** A drive to promote new uses and increased consumption of cotton was organized at Atlanta yesterday at a conference of governmental and business executives. A committee of eight, composed of representatives of manufacturers, growers, distributors, and commissioners of agriculture, was appointed to formulate a compromise program. Harry D. Wilson, Louisiana State Commissioner of Agriculture and president of the Association of Southern Commissioners, was elected chairman. (New York Times.)

**FLOOD-CONTROL MEASURE** A new flood-control measure involving a change in federal policy of financing such projects was tentatively added yesterday to the legislative program of the present session of Congress at a White House conference in which President Roosevelt, Representative Rayburn, majority leader, and Representative Whittington, chairman of the Flood Control Committee, participated. The legislation, Mr. Rayburn said, would provide for Federal financing of dams and reservoir construction where such projects are of a revenue-producing nature whether from irrigation or power production. (Press.)

Senate,                   The Senate continued debate on the reorganization  
Mar. 2                   bill (S. 3331) (pp. 3598-3609 and 3618-3626). Mr. Schwel-  
                          lenbach spoke in favor of the provisions of the bill re-  
                          garding accounting and auditing (pp. 3598-3609) and Mr. Walsh spoke in  
                          opposition to the provisions regarding civil service and classification  
                          (pp. 3618-3625).

The Senate agreed to the conference report on the First Deficiency Appropriation Bill for 1938 (H.R. 9306) (p. 3630). The report was submitted to the House which took no action (p. 3655). The bill contains the following items of interest to this Department: fighting forest fires, \$1,279,417; Inter-American highway, \$34,000; payments to Federal Land banks and Farm Mortgage Corporation, reduction in interest rate on mortgages, \$19,200,000.

The Senate Committee on Education and Labor reported with an amendment S. 531, to provide compensation for disability or death resulting from injury to employees of contractors on public buildings and public works (S.Rept. 1417).

The Senate Committee on Public Lands reported without amendment S.Res. 240, to investigate the creation of the Petrified Forest National Park; referred to Committee to Audit and Control the Contingent Expenses of the Senate.

House,                   Mr. Harrington spoke in favor of using alcohol made  
Mar. 2                   from farm products as automobile fuel (pp. 3656-3659).

Item of interest in appendix; radio interview with Hubert Holloway, American Automobile Association, on super toll highways, favoring construction of such highways, but not financed by tolls (pp. 3663-3664).

Bill approved by President: H.J.Res. 591, appropriating \$2,000,000 for insect pest control and \$5,000,000 for administration of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938. Approved March 2, 1938. (Public Resolution No. 81). (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

New School of           A graduate school of forestry, the first of its kind  
Forestry                in the South and the third in the United States, will be  
                          open for students next fall of Duke University. The other  
                          two are at Harvard and Yale Universities. No undergraduate courses will  
                          be given in the new school, and only candidates presenting bachelor's  
                          degrees, in suitable pre-forestry subjects, will be accepted. The new  
                          course will lead to the degree Master of Forestry. (Science Service.)



How Warm Margaret Dana, in the Consumers' Forum, Atlantic  
is Wool? (March) writes under the title "How Warm is Wool?"

She says in part: "Curiously enough in this presumably civilized and scientific age, the problem of warmth in relation to fibre sources and mixtures is one of the least studied and least understood of all consumer subjects...Although wool fibre has in itself no warmth property, it does have to a unique degree the rate and valuable quality of resilience, which creates a fabric with the greatest capacity to trap and hold air over the longest period of time under use. Add to this the fact of the peculiar structure of the individual wool fibres, which makes for felting or meshing, and there you have the reason for our thousands of years of respect for wool as a warmth provider...Spun rayon is no more than the continuous filament rayon cut into short lengths similar to wool or cotton fiber and spun into yarn, as either wool or cotton is spun. The resulting yarn looks and feels like wool. Fabrics made wholly or partially of it cannot be distinguished from all wool except by experts--and not always then..."

Potash E.H., writing on "SOS for Potash" in the Country  
Needed Home Magazine (March) says in part: "I asked soil scientists in states I visited how much potash is needed to replace the rapidly vanishing supply. Director C. A. Mooers, at the Tennessee Agricultural Station, advised 25 pounds to the acre for potash-deficient soils of his state. Dr. S. F. Thornton of Purdue University summed up the needs of Indiana at a like amount of potash for each cropped acre. Similar suggestions are offered for potash fertilizer...Recently large deposits have been located 1,000 feet down in the earth in New Mexico. Today one half of the potash we are applying to our soil is produced in this country. If, for any reason, imports are cut off, American producers can supply all our needs. There is reason to believe that additional workable potash deposits will be found in the salt beds underlying large areas of New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Kansas and Louisiana. Transportation and distribution charges are more than one half the cost of the fertilizer..."

Reciprocal "Possibly because of the high 'favorable' balance of  
Trade Pacts trade which fell to the lot of the United States last year and the even more ample surplus of exports over imports indicated for January, the direct attacks on Secretary Hull's reciprocal trade agreement program have diminished in volume recently," says an editorial in the Wall Street Journal (March 1). "However, individual industries which bid fair to be unfavorably affected by new trade pacts are far from silent. Notable in this connection is the textile industry, which opposes the proposed trade agreement with Great Britain and the shoe industry, which is against lowering the duties on footwear in the prospective agreement with Czechoslovakia...The reciprocal trade agreements have contributed substantially to the expansion of our foreign trade...There is reason to believe that the country as a whole has been helped more than it has been injured..."

Leaf-Eating  
Insects

An item in the Farm Journal (March) says: "Says the leaf-eating insect: 'It's getting harder every day to make an honest living.' You see the reason for this complaint when you learn that a patent has been granted to Mayme R. Coe (of the Department) on a method for stabilizing pyrethrum powder, nicotine dust and rotenone against deterioration by light so that their insect-killing potency is extended some ten to twenty days longer. This is accomplished by enclosing each particle of the light-sensitive insecticide in a globule-forming liquid colored with a chlorophyll green dye. This process excludes all wave-lengths of light below 4,900 Angstrom units, all of which destroy the potency of these insecticides as heretofore used. A few hours in the sunlight, without protection, is enough to destroy the killing power of rotenone, pyrethrum and nicotine dust. That is why they have been handicapped in their attempts to replace calcium arsenate, lead arsenate and Paris green."

Vegetable  
Juices

The Florida Grower (February) says editorially: "...Establishment in Texas of what is said to be the first commercial canning plant in the United States for exclusive preparation of vegetable juices offers a valuable suggestion to enterprising Florida growers...The Texas canning concern, even in infancy, has a volume of orders for carrot, beet, spinach, celery, garlic and onion juices sufficient to keep its plant constantly busy. This business has been secured without advance publicity and advertising...Opportunity is knocking upon Florida's door with a can, bearing another suggestion for providing sufficient agricultural outlets of surplus and non-shipping-quality production. This suggestion also offers significant possibilities for commercial activity and a new Florida industry to add to this state's productive wealth."

Part-Time  
Farmers

"The Bureau of the Census has issued an interesting bulletin on part-time farming which is the result of two census inquiries (1935 and 1930) on the subject," says the Pennsylvania Farmer. "These inquiries reveal that about 30.5 percent of the 6,812,350 farm operators in this country may be classed as part-time farmers, devoting from one day to 250 days to other work. About 45 percent of these part-time farmers spend less than 50 days off their farm and about 37 percent of them 100 days or more. In 1934 South Dakota led and Utah was second in this respect; while they and New Hampshire and Arizona were the only states showing more than half their farm operators engaged in other work. Iowa leads in the low percentage (18.3) of farmers doing outside work and New Jersey is second (20.5). The Bureau of the Census does not assume that its information is exact; as there is room for some misunderstanding of its inquiries; but it is certainly of interest and worthy of further study."



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXVIII, No. 45

Section 1

March 7, 1938

**BRITISH TRADE HEARINGS** A public controversy of large proportions appeared to be brewing last night over suggestions that the United States grant tariff reductions on imports of textiles and other manufactured goods from the United Kingdom. The government's committee for reciprocity information announced that more than 400 members of Congress, state officials, business men, labor leaders and others had asked to be heard concerning the forthcoming negotiation of a British-American trade agreement. Public hearings will begin Monday, March 14, in the Commerce Department auditorium. (Associated Press.)

**BANKRUPTCY ACT EXTENDED** President Roosevelt yesterday signed legislation extending the Frazier-Lemke farm bankruptcy act to March 3, 1940. The act set up a system whereby an insolvent farmer may escape foreclosure for three years by paying "rent" to his creditors. (Press.)

**VETO POWER FOR FUNDS** Legislation granting President Roosevelt's request for power to veto individual items in appropriation bills was refused Saturday by a Senate-House conference committee. In his budget message Mr. Roosevelt asked Congress to give him such authority by statute or an amendment to the Constitution. He left it to Congress to decide which course to pursue. (Associated Press.)

**LEIPZIG TRADE FAIR** "Walther Funk, new Economics Minister, opened the Leipzig Fair yesterday with a speech in which he appealed to the United States for an improvement in American-German trade relations," reports Otto D. Tolischus in a Berlin wireless to the New York Times. "At the same time, however, he pledged Germany to a continuation and even intensification of the present economic policy, which Washington has always viewed as a principal obstacle to such improvement...."

**INCH-POUND DEFINITIONS** The National Bureau of Standards is hopeful that Congress soon will get around to a job assigned to it more than 150 years ago--defining what is an inch and what is a pound, says an Associated Press report. Congress legalized the metric system long ago but it never has defined the inch and the pound.



Certified Colors for Cosmetics      Approval of plans to go ahead with a cooperative program of developing certified colors for cosmetics in advance of pending legislation was voiced recently in a report submitted to the executive board of the Toilet Goods Association by the bureau of standards of the industry, according to Dr. H. Gregory Thomas, director of the bureau. He pointed out that the Department of Agriculture has certified fifteen colors for the food industry. He added that several hundred goods are in use in the toilet goods industry at present. The industry is especially interested in pigments and the cooperative move with representatives of the medical profession and the color makers will seek to present an array of colors, suitable for certification which will be found useful. The Department of Agriculture certifications on food colors provide that they are harmless internally and follow standard specifications which have taken a long time to develop. (Press.)

Sulphur and Coccidiosis      "Feeding 2 percent flowers of sulphur in chick rations appears to be a thoroughly practical method of preventing coccidiosis, provided the chicks are kept under reasonably sanitary conditions," says Nieman Hoveland, in Country Gentleman (March). Since Country Gentleman in 1937 first reported the success of University of Wisconsin scientists in preventing coccidiosis under experimental conditions, Dr. C. A. Herrick and his associates, have found that a moderate amount of sulphur controls coccidiosis very well if the chicks get only a light infection, but does not always give satisfactory results if the infection is heavy...Sulphur feeding is a good supplement to sanitation but not a complete substitute for it...Wisconsin authorities warn that using more than 2 percent is likely to slow up growth and bring about rickets...Thus far not enough work has been done with colloidal and organic sulphur at Wisconsin to learn definitely how they compare with flowers of sulphur for preventing coccidiosis when treatment is begun in plenty of time before the chicks become infected..."

N.J. Planning Report      "The preliminary report of the New Jersey State Planning Board on the large amount of idle subdivided land in that state has focused attention anew on the value of long-term regional planning for rural as well as urban properties," says Lee E. Cooper in the New York Times. "Subdividers have learned in recent years that it is always possible to buy farm lands indiscriminately and sell them off at several times the price paid for them merely by cutting the properties up into lots...The New Jersey Planning Board emphasizes this and other problems in its report, based on field surveys by WPA workers over a period of eighteen months...Much of the acreage (of idle subdivided land) probably will be returned in time to its proper rural status, for use as farms. In New York a law with just that aim is now in effect to cover prematurely subdivided land in this state..."



Senate,  
Mar. 3                      The Senate continued debate on the reorganization  
bill (S. 3331) (pp. 3682-3693).

The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations reported without amendment H.J.Res. 567, for United States participation in the Ninth Congress of the International Seed Testing Association in 1940. (S. Rept. 1439).

House,  
Mar. 3                      The House agreed to the conference report on the  
First Deficiency Appropriation Bill for 1938 (H.R. 9306)  
(p. 3706). This bill will now be sent to the President.

The House began debate on the revenue bill (H.R. 9682) (pp. 3706-3740).

The House Committee on Public Lands reported with amendments the following bills: H.R. 4548 amending the act adding to the Absaroka and Gallatin National Forests and improving and extending the winter-feed facilities of game animals in the Yellowstone National Park (H.Rept. 1874); H.R. 7534 ~~withdrawing~~ land in the Cleveland National Forest, California, from location and entry under the mining laws (H.Rept. 1875).

Bill introduced: by Mr. Eaton, H.J. Res. 606, to appropriate an additional \$3,000,000 for eradication of the Dutch elm disease in America; referred Committee on Appropriations.

Item in appendix: speech by Mr. Martin of Colorado, in House, March 2, during debate on Interior Appropriation Bill, on irrigation and flood control (pp. 3764-3765).

Senate,  
Mar. 4                      The Senate continued debate on the reorganization  
bill (S. 3331) (pp. 3777-3802).

Senator Truman entered a motion to reconsider the vote by which the Senate agreed to the motion of Senator McKellar to discharge the Committee on Banking and Currency from the further consideration of the bill (S. 3428) providing for transcontinental superhighways and to refer the bill to the Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads. Senator McKellar's motion was agreed to on March 2, 1938 (p. 3796). The Senate recessed until Monday, March 7.

House,  
Mar. 4                      Mrs. Rogers of Massachusetts addressed the House re-  
garding reciprocal trade agreements concluded with France,  
Switzerland and Brazil (pp. 3855-3856).

The House committee on Public Lands reported out two bills: S. 1759 (H.Rept. 1901); and H.R. 9660 (H.Rept. 1902) to amend the homestead act. The House recessed until Monday, Mar. 7.

Bill introduced: by Mr. Copeland, S. 3609, to define certain, and to fix the standards of, weights and measures of the United States; referred Committee on Commerce.

Harvesting  
Grass Seed

"The interest during the past few years in the Western Great Plains Region in returning land to grass has created a demand for information on methods of harvesting seed of the native grasses," says R. I. Throckmorton, Kansas State College, in Country Gentleman (March). "Some seed of the bluestem and grama grasses has been harvested by stripping, but this is a slow and laborious process except where mechanical strippers are available, and the seed must be recleaned under most conditions before it can be used. Many attempts have been made to harvest seed of the buffalo grass, but thus far no method has been devised whereby it is possible to gather.....this seed, which is close to the soil, without also collecting a large quantity of soil, gravel and fragments of plants...During the fall of 1937 attempts were made to harvest seed of the grama and bluestem grasses by use of the combine. The type combine having a rasp form of cylinder operated successfully in harvesting seed of the little bluestem and of the side oat and blue grama grasses. In most cases the seed was threshed sufficiently clean to be used for planting without recleaning. This method may also be used successfully in harvesting seed of hairy grama grass..."

Small Town  
Markets

Farm and Ranch (March 1) in an editorial, says: "...Dallas has an organization known as the Kessler Plan Association. Its original purpose was to aid in developing a city plan for Dallas...The association, supported by its membership and the chamber of commerce, has gone beyond the city limits and on out into the country for more than a hundred miles to give aid and encouragement to the upbuilding of small cities and towns and local community markets. The services of this association are offered free of cost to any city desiring a plan for future growth and expansion. A large number of cities have taken advantage of this service and have adopted five year plans which include special attention to the rural areas surrounding them. Farm-to-market roads are planned and constructed; markets for farm products established; the city is cleaned up; parks and places of recreation given attention and the city improved in other ways in order to make it a more attractive and desirable place in which to live. Local organizations are cooperating with farmers in their trade territory, aiding them in the rebuilding of agriculture to a more prosperous basis."

New Scientific  
Journals

The first number of the Journal of Neurophysiology has been issued. It is under the management of an editorial board composed of Dr. J.G. Dusser de Barenne and Dr. J. F. Fulton, Sterling professors of physiology at Yale University, and Dr. R. W. Gerard, professor of physiology at the University of Chicago...The Journal of Geomorphology, edited by Dr. Douglas Johnson, professor of physiography at Columbia University, is a publication issued by the Columbia Press. The journal will appear four times each year in February, April, October and December. (Science, March 4.)



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Vol. LXVIII, No. 46

Section 1

March 8, 1938

**CZECHOSLOVAKIAN PACT SIGNED** The Czechoslovakian trade agreement granting that country substantial tariff concessions on American imports of shoes and other manufactured products in return for similar concessions on several agricultural and industrial exports from this country was signed at the State Department yesterday by Secretary Hull and Vladimir Hurban, the Czechoslovakian Minister. Under the agreement the United States grants to the Czechoslovakian Republic tariff benefits on sixty-three items, imports of which from that country in 1937 totaled \$19,552,000, or 55 percent of the imports from that country. In a summary of the Czechoslovakian concessions to the United States, the State Department said that "probably no other country has gone as far in a trade agreement with the United States in attempting to open the way for an expansion of trade by the removal or relaxation of special controls on imports, other than duties." (New York Times.)

**RURAL RELIEF HEARINGS** Corrington Gill, Assistant WPA Administrator, told the Senate Committee on Unemployment yesterday that at least 3,500,000 rural families, or more than one of every four such families in the United States, received public assistance at some time during the depression. While most of these 3,500,000 families are no longer receiving public assistance, according to Mr. Gill, many are still not far above the destitution level. With Mr. Gill's testimony, the committee opened its hearings on problems of rural relief. Another witness was Rupert B. Vance, Professor of Sociology at the University of North Carolina, who declared the population of the Appalachian areas was too large to permit an adequate standard of living, yet it was increasing rapidly. (New York Times.)

**STOCK YARD ORDER** The Supreme Court yesterday agreed to review a challenge by the Denver Stock Yard Company of the constitutionality of an order by the Secretary of Agriculture fixing maximum rates to be charged in operating public stock yards. (Washington Post.)

**BRITISH SUGAR** A London report by the Canadian Press says, provided the international sugar agreement concluded last May finally goes into force, the government will continue for the five years for which the agreement is effective, the additional colonial preference of 3 shillings a hundredweight of sugar on a quota of 360,000 tons, Sir John Simon, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said in the Commons yesterday.



Banking and  
Agriculture

Dan H. Otis, author of "Speaking the Farmer's Language" in Banking (March) discusses cooperation between farmers and bankers. He says in part: "The Oklahoma program is a typical one...So important is erosion control in Oklahoma that ten of the 100 watershed demonstrations in the country are located in that state...Bankers Group IV in Oklahoma represents 17 northwestern counties. When the members learned that more than 400 farmers living in that section wanted to terrace their farms but could not because there was no one to run the levels, they conferred with officials of the state extension service. An agreement resulted, to raise \$800 among the banks for employing an expert to train three or four men in each county who would be capable of furnishing the necessary service. This training is supervised by a soil specialist of the college and the undertaking is working out well. Bankers Group III has raised money for a similar project in its section of the state. It is hoped to organize soil conservation districts to cover entire watersheds and to coordinate the entire program...An inquiry made by the Federal Land Bank of Houston among 150,000 farmers showed that on farms where there were club boys and girls practically no one was on relief...."

## Subsidies

(London)  
In The Field (February 19) in the twelfth of a series for Phosphate of articles on the land and the nation, J. A. Scott Watson, professor of rural economy in the University of Oxford, says in part: "There is general agreement that the most crying need of the land is for phosphate, and the hill farmer is offered one particular kind of phosphate--basic slag--at a cheap rate, three quarters of its cost. Basic slag is an excellent form of phosphate, but there are many cases where mineral phosphate, which is cheaper, would do equally well...All the available supplies of slag could probably be put to good use on our lowland grasslands, and a considerable quantity of mineral phosphate could be used as well. It is greatly hoped, that, if and when the demand for slag seems likely to exceed the supply, the subsidy will be extended to mineral phosphate."

Organic  
Nomen-  
clature

A. M. Patterson, Antioch College, in a letter to Science (March 4) says: "In 1930 the International Committee on the Reform of the Nomenclature of Organic Chemistry adopted a definitive report...A translation of the new official French text of these rules as adopted tentatively by the committee at Lucerne in 1936 is given (in the letter). Any one having criticisms should communicate with me as early as possible in order that these may be considered by the American committee before the meeting of the International Union of Chemistry in Rome next May..."



Strong Wood (London, February) says: "Science helps the wood industry by making possible an impregnated wood having a tensile strength of 30,000 pounds to the square inch. Although considerably harder than normal wood of the kind used, this new substance can be readily turned in an ordinary woodworking lathe...This new wood derivative is probably produced in a similar manner to the full-cell creosoted wood, but having as a filler one of the synthetic resins now in use for plastic work of the bakelite and other types...The wood is easily machined and excellent threads can be cut. It absorbs little water under the most exacting tests..."

Precooling Vegetables J. H. Currie, in Country Gentleman (March) reports: "A new method of precooling vegetables shipped east from California, in which water is used instead of the usual ice or other refrigerant, is being tried out under the supervision of engineers of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the University of California. By this method, vegetables packed for shipment are immersed in water at a temperature of from 32 to 34 degrees for from twelve to sixteen minutes. The produce is then placed in refrigerator cars for shipment. Ultraviolet sterilizing lamps are used in some of the precooling units to kill the organisms that might be washed from the vegetables into the water, so as to reduce the danger of spreading infection from diseased to healthy vegetables. Although the ultraviolet lights do reduce the number of organisms in the water, the engineers found, in their tests so far, that produce from both the unirradiated water and that treated by the lights arrived in the East in good condition."

Diet and "Human Erosion" If a raise of \$100 a year in wages or salary comes to a family in a small city, the dining table will reflect the increase, but the previous income of the family will make a difference in how much more is spent for food. Those in the lower income groups with earnings of less than \$1,500 a year probably will put about \$20 of the raise into food. The families with incomes of from \$1,500 to \$3,000 probably will add \$10 out of the \$100 to food spendings, and the groups with incomes of more than \$3,000 will average spending about \$3 out of the added \$100 for food. Dr. Hazel K. Stiebeling of the Bureau of Home Economics contributed these figures to the symposium on conservation of human resources recently in an address in which she traced the connection between inadequate diet and "human erosion", and emphasized that an abundant supply of well-chosen foods can "raise health from levels generally accepted as average or usual to definitely superior planes. Fully adequate diets are a conservation measure in the finest sense of the word."

Uruguay Exchange The shortage of exchange in Uruguay is retarding imports from all countries, but particularly from the United States, said a report recently to the Department of Commerce. (Press.)



**Citric Acid Industry**

F. A. Wells and H. T. Herrick, of the Bureau of Chemistry and Soils, contribute "Citric Acid Industry" to Industrial and Engineering Chemistry (March). They say in the concluding paragraphs: "Important new developments in the industry can be expected shortly. The use of citric acid in the synthesis of certain types of plastics and other products has been indicated...The use of cheap carbohydrate materials for citric acid manufacture and lower operating costs, due to improved technique, may make possible further price reductions which will probably lead to greater demand and consumption of this product. Although citric acid production by a true submerged growth process in yields high enough to be of practical importance has not been accomplished, this problem may be solved...Producers of the naturally occurring citric acid may in the future be subjected to competition more severe than that which now exists. Natural citric acid production in the United States is definitely limited to the amount of full citrus fruit available and probably seldom exceeds 3,500,000 pounds annually..."

**Economic**

The Index (Spring) in an article on the van Zeeland Reconstruction report and its implications for the United States, says that "with the possible exceptions of collaboration in arriving at an international plan aimed to restore work trade and possible adhering to an economic pact which would equally bind others in our direction, nothing in M. van Zeeland's report implies any form of external commitment for the United States not already in existence. We can adhere to the spirit and substance of the report without entangling political alliances and without in anywise endangering our international freedom by binding ourselves irrevocably to any course...In view of the importance to our agriculture, manufacturing, commerce and finance of our international relations, and of our economic power and enlightened standards, the United States is inescapably cast in the role of leadership in cooperation among nations toward new achievements in raising standards of living. The report clearly states the problem: 'International trade is not an end in itself, it is only a means directed towards an end. This end cannot be other than the improvement of the standard of life of the masses, the increase of the well-being of the population.'"

**Ready-to-Cook Poultry**

Bruce Miner, author of "Table Dressed Poultry" in the Farm Journal (March) says: "Ready-to-cook poultry, full drawn and wrapped in cellophane, is the industry's latest bid for a greater share of the homemaker's meat dollar. Within the last twelve months, one midwest packing company, pioneering in the new processing and merchandising method, has sold more than 1,500,000 pounds of fully dressed, government-inspected poultry...Full-drawn poultry costs more per pound, because 25 percent or more of the bird, by weight, is removed at the time it is dressed...It will take a little time to overcome the reluctance of buyers to pay a higher price, even though the table-dressed birds may yield more edible chicken per dollar. There is a considerable saving in freight on table-dressed birds..."



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Vol. LXVIII, No. 47

Section 1

March 9, 1938

## FREIGHT RATE INCREASES

The Interstate Commerce Commission grated increases in railroad freight rates yesterday estimated by experts of the Association of American Railroads at upward of \$175,000,000, instead of the \$469,000,000, for which the roads applied. In contrast to the estimates of the railroad experts, Commissioner Joseph B. Eastman implied that the sum would be \$270,000,000 and declared that that amount was what the railroads needed. President Roosevelt had no comment to make on the decision at his press conference. However, the President, who has been waiting for the rate decision before seeking a permanent cure for the railroads' troubles, called a group of Congressional, I.C.C., railroad and labor representatives and investors to meet next week. (Press.)

## RELIEF FOR FARMERS

Spokesmen for the urban unemployed and for the southern tenant farmers and sharecroppers drew dismal pictures of the plight of millions in these groups before the Senate Committee on Unemployment yesterday. David Lasser, president of the Workers Alliance of America, an organization of WPA workers and unemployed, opposed suggestions that relief be turned over to the states. Howard Kester, of the Southern Tenant Farmers' Union, declared that because the plantation system was being liquidated, sharecroppers and tenant farmers were facing a situation more grave than at any time since the Civil War. (New York Times.)

## EDUCATION IN RURAL AREAS

The report of President Roosevelt's committee on education, which proposed that \$855,000,000 in Federal funds be granted to the States from 1939 to 1945 for public school work, was described last night by Dr. Frank Porter Graham, president of the University of North Carolina. Doctor Graham said that thirty-one percent of American children are born in rural areas, and yet the farm regions receive but nine percent of the national income. Approximately 4,250,000 of these children are in the Southeastern States, where there is two percent of the national income. He proposed library service for rural areas--\$2,000,000 for the first year, \$6,000,000 in the last year. (Baltimore Sun.)

## CZECHOSLOVAK TRADE PACT

A generally favorable reaction to provisions of the American-Czechoslovak reciprocal trade agreement, announced in Washington, Monday, was evident among individual domestic manufacturers, importers and exporters in New York City, reported the New York Times yesterday.



March 9, 1938

Farmers Use            The Associated Press Farm Editor says in a report from  
Hybrid Corn          Chicago that thousands of Corn Belt farmers will seek in-  
                             creased corn yields this year from approximately 15,000,000  
acres by seeding hybrid varieties. Experiments conducted by the University  
of Illinois College of Agriculture in five sections of the state last  
year showed the five best hybrids outyielded 5 open pollinated varieties  
by an average of 12.5. One field in the north central part of the state  
averaged 128.8 bushels of sound corn to the acre.

For the first time since hybrids were first introduced, the available supply this year approximates the demand. Commercial producers say they are about sold out on all varieties, at prices ranging from \$5 to \$8 a bushel, as compared with \$8 to \$12 last year. Hybrids, producers and farmers agree, have shown better results when planted within the immediate area where the seed was originally produced. Dr. Merle T. Jenkins, Department of Agriculture corn specialist, said Illinois and Iowa, states which produce about one-fourth of the nation's corn crop, have the largest supply of hybrid seed.



Chemistry on the Farm      Chemists will solve the problem of converting farm crops into substitutes for coal, petroleum and natural gas before these resources are exhausted, Dr. Frank C. Whitmore, president of the American Chemical Society, predicted recently to the Rochester section of the society. Exhaustion of such resources in the United States "is conservatively at least 100 years away," said Dr. Whitmore, dean of the School of Chemistry and Physics at Pennsylvania State College. Diversion directly or indirectly of farm crops into hydrocarbons, compounds of the two elements, carbon and hydrogen, which constitute the main proportion of such materials as coal, petroleum and natural gas, is the task facing chemists, he said. "Many farm crops can be converted to alcohol, which in turn can be readily converted into hydrocarbons," he said. "For instance, the pine industry of the South provides turpentine and resin, which consists of hydrocarbons and materials which can be readily converted to hydrocarbons." The chemists' work in this field," Dr. Whitmore stated, "represents the beginning of an effort to free man from his dependence on stored raw materials."(A.P.)

Seed Treating Invention      "An improved seed treating gadget has been developed by Dr. M. B. Moore, Minnesota College of Agriculture," says J. F. Brown, in Capper's Farmer (March). "It consists of a wooden chute equipped with baffles which thoroughly mix the grain and fungicide dust as they are run through it by gravity. Hinged to the chute at the top is a proportioning trough for receiving the grain and chemical. The box is big enough to hold 2 bushels of wheat. The first is poured in and spread evenly, the right proportion of fungicide dust is sprinkled in a center line on top, and the second bushel and dose of chemical are added. The free end of the trough is then lifted to pour the grain through the mixing chute into a bag attached to the bottom...One of these treaters was made by W. J. Henderson, extension plant pathologist, and associates at Colorado Agricultural College and 100 bushels of grain were treated in 4 hours. The college extension service issued full instructions, with bill of material and directions for making and using the device, including a full set of drawings..."

Improvement of Cotton      Southern Agriculturist (March) contains "Quality Cotton--A Pressing Need" by Harry L. Brown, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture. Discussing the one-variety community plan, he says: "For the country as a whole, incomplete returns indicate that something like 125,000 farmers planted more than two and a half million acres to one-variety cotton in 1937. This is based on a preliminary report which states that about 800 one-variety organizations in 300 counties in the 14 main cotton producing states were in various stages of development last year. The total production in these widely scattered improvement communities amounted to nearly two million bales, all of which was of a superior quality and practically all of even-running lengths of from 1 to 1 and 1/16 inch. The average returns in one-variety communities in 1937, as nearly as it can now be figured, was about \$5 an acre, and this in spite of the low prices of cotton..."



Senate, The conference report on the Independent Offices Ap-  
 Mar. 7 propriation Bill for 1939 (H.R. 8837) was submitted and  
 agreed to in the Senate (p. 3880). As reported by the  
 conferees, the item for the Central Statistical Board is changed to \$125,-  
 000, the item-veto provision is eliminated and the item for administra-  
 tive expense of the Rural Electrification Administration is raised to  
 \$1,650,000. Among the amendments reported in disagreement were the fol-  
 lowing: raising the amount for rural electrification loans from \$30,000,-  
 000 to \$40,000,000; modifying the usual provision prohibiting use of oleo-  
margarine in veterans' hospitals except for cooking, by permitting its  
 use if made from products grown in the United States.

Executive nomination reported (p. 3877): Clifford E. Willson, of  
 Montana, to be Regional Director of the Farm Security Administration.

House, Mr. Nelson quoted increases in farm prices to show  
 Mar. 7 the improvement in the farmers' position since 1933, and  
 Mr. Fish argued that these increases did not indicate  
 improvement (pp. 3904-3905).

Bills introduced: by Mr. Case of S.D.: H.R. 9763, to provide for the  
 punishment of persons transporting stolen animals in interstate commerce.\*\*\*  
 referred Committee on Judiciary; by Mr. Rees of Kansas: H.R. 9766, to pro-  
 hibit the movement in interstate commerce of adulterated and misbranded  
food, drugs, devices and cosmetics,\*\*\* referred Committee on Interstate and  
 Foreign Commerce.

Bill approved by the President: H.R. 9306, First Deficiency Bill for  
 1938; approved March 5, 1938 (Public No. 440, 75th Congress). (Prepared  
 by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Rehabilitation R. L. Vansant, state director of the Farm Security  
 in Georgia Administration, recently reported the net worth of re-  
 habilitation clients in Georgia had increased from an  
 average of less than \$50 in 1935 to approximately \$500 at present, says  
 an Athens report in the Atlanta Constitution (March 3). He said the es-  
 timate was based on a careful analysis of 2,000 families selected at ran-  
 dom from the 9,735 families on the rural rehabilitation program. "These  
 figures," he said, "were arrived at after deducting all indebtedness  
 which a family may have from a reasonable estimate of the value of all  
 livestock, equipment, feed, seed, food and household goods on hand."

Argentine The policy of the Argentine Central Bank has succeeded  
 Money in maintaining monetary stability, it is asserted in a  
 report issued by the bank, according to the Argentine Infor-  
 mation Bureau. The official exchange rate had been completely stabilized  
 in 1937 and the bank possessed sufficient resources firmly to maintain  
 this policy in 1938, it was declared. (Press.)



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXVIII, No. 48

Section 1

March 10, 1938

ASKS AID FOR DROUGHT AREA      The Government must continue to help distressed farmers in the Great Plains drought area, H. H. Bennett, chief of the Soil Conservation Service, said yesterday. Need is acute, he told the Senate Unemployment Committee. W. H. Brokaw, director of the Nebraska Extension Service, testified that Nebraska farmers had manifested an antipathy to subsistence grants, preferring Government loans. The witness said he believed the solution of the agricultural problem of the Great Plains States lay in the production of more livestock on individual farms. (Associated Press.)

SECRETARY'S ARTICLE      The Daily Digest calls special attention to an article, "The Human Side of the Department," by Secretary Wallace in Rural America (February). The article is too long to quote in full and of such interest to members of the Department that it is difficult to select a short portion for quotation. It is based on responses from several hundred of the older workers in the Department to an invitation by the Secretary to comment and reminisce on the work of the Department as they know it.

RFC LOANS WOULD AID FARMERS      An increase from \$300,000,000 to \$1,000,000,000 in the amount of Reconstruction Corporation funds available for industrial loans was proposed yesterday by Senator Vandenberg of Michigan. He introduced an amendment to the existing law which he said would authorize the increase "specifically to make the new resources available for the immediate development of and greater industrial use of farm commodities." The Michigan Senator declared that increased use of farm commodities provided "the largest and the most practical and most effective opportunity" for farm relief and unemployment relief. (Washington Post.)

BUILD AMERICA PROGRAM      President Roosevelt gave his endorsement yesterday to a program of building trade executives to promote privately financed construction and provide steadier employment for the 6,000,000 building trades workers. The program, entitled Build America, was presented to the President by a group headed by James C. Caffrey of Cleveland, coordinator of Federal Housing Administration activities in Cleveland. He described the purpose of the campaign as the consolidation of industry and labor forces behind a construction campaign to create new jobs. (New York Times.)

New R.R.  
Tariffs

The Interstate Commerce Commission's decision, granting raises in freight rates, sets forth the following: an increase of 5 percent for agricultural products except tropical fruit; animals and animal products, except horses and mules; lumber, shingles, lath, cottonseed oil and vegetable oils, except linseed oil; ten cents a ton increase on anthracite, making an average increase of about 5.9 percent; no alteration in the rates on bituminous coal, lignite, coke, iron ore, fresh milk and cream and refrigeration service; an increase of 10 percent in all other items, except that "heavy loading" commodities which received increases last fall must include their earlier increases in the 10 percent. The rates are to go into effect ten days after the railroads file their new tariffs, but the commission said all new rate schedules must be filed by July 31. (Press.)

Implements

Farming changes to control soil erosion do not include for Terracing the junking of present farm machinery, according to T. B. Chambers, Chief Engineer of the Soil Conservation Service. Farmers are finding, he says, that standard equipment may generally be used in an erosion control program without change. In some cases, however, a few relatively simple adjustments are necessary. Grain binders, for example, are being used on terraced fields these days without difficulty. The old trouble of crossing terrace ridges may be largely eliminated by shortening the binder hitch or raising the point of attachment. This adjustment usually permits the binder to cross a ridge at right angles without dragging or sticking. Diagonal crossing usually can be avoided by binding parallel to the ridge as much as possible. Damage to either the binder or the ridge can be avoided by tilting the platform up a few inches when necessary. Chambers points out that certain types of machinery are especially well adapted for erosion control farming. He cites the tricycletype tractor with rear-wheel brakes and the two-way plow as excellent equipment for any soil-conserving farmer. (Farm Ideas, February.)

Senate,  
Mar. 8

The Senate continued debate on the reorganization bill (S. 3331) (pp. 4018-4027). Mr. Capper inserted a letter from President Green of the A.F.L. opposing the provision of the bill which would substitute a civil service administrator for the Civil Service Commission and Mr. Byrnes inserted a letter from Jacob Baker, of the United Federal Workers of America, and a statement of Luther Steward, of the National Federation of Federal Employees, approving of this provision (pp. 4011-4012).

The Senate Committee on Finance reported with amendments H.R. 8099 to amend certain administrative provisions of the Tariff Act of 1930. (S.Rept. 1465).

Nomination confirmed: Clifford H. Willson, of Montana, to be regional director of the Farm Security Administration. (p. 4028).

Mr. Bulkley inserted an editorial from the Washington Herald of March 7, supporting his bill (S. 3428) providing for transcontinental superhighways (p. 4012).



House, Bills introduced: by Mr. Voorhis: H.R. 9782, to extend to all citizens an equal right to employment in the service of the Government of the United States, irrespective of age; referred Committee on Civil Service; by Mr. Thomas of N.J.; H.Res. 433 calling for the appointment of a special committee\*\*\* to investigate the question of publicity and the dissemination of propaganda by the executive departments of the Government, with a view to determining to what extent, if any, the existing statute has been violated; referred Committee on Rules.

Items in appendix: radio addresses of Senator Bankhead, March 5 (pp. 4075-4077) and of Senator McGill March 4 (pp. 4077-4078) explaining the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938; letter from Dr. A. E. Morgan, T.V.A., regarding the present controversy between the directors of that agency (pp. 4079-4081). (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Secretary Hull's "Because of the clearness of vision and admirable  
Agreements steadfastness of purpose that have distinguished his course from the beginning, Secretary Hull is now able to announce the seventh agreement signed by the United States under the reciprocal trade act and the seventh to be concluded with a European country," says an editorial in the New York Times. "...A special feature of this treaty is that it contains certain reservations to the 'most-favored-nation clause'. The United States allows preferences by Czechoslovakia on certain commodities to other Danubian countries, while Czechoslovakia recognizes our reservations with regard to Cuba and our insular possessions. As one agreement is added to another, it becomes more and more clear how important the reciprocal trade negotiations have been not merely as a method of removing trade barriers and expanding world commerce, but as a force for peace. In the world under the shadow of intense nationalism, of armament programs unparalleled in peace times, of threats and counterthreats that are hardly any longer even veiled, the Hull agreements are a ray of hope..."

Artificial Scott Hart, of the Federal Dairy in the Washington  
Daylight Post (March 9) says: "'Daylight illumination' is being provided in the Washington color laboratories of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics by the means of filtered artificial light, diffused through a frosted glass skylight...The scientists point out that grading or classing under daylight is important for many commodities such as cotton, grain, hay, tobacco, papers, furs, fruits and vegetables. Classers generally object to any kind of artificial lighting and have a real problem on cloudy days and in rooms where the lighting is poor. "Though the daylight in this room is artificial, anyone stepping into the room is under the impression that natural daylight is coming through the frosted glass skylight..." This artificial daylight closely matches in color the international standard for average daylight. For the advance in this field of science the credit goes to Miss Dorothy Nickerson, color technologist of the bureau. She is recognized international<sup>ly</sup> as an authority on color identification..."



Elm Disease                      The American City (March) in an item on the Dutch  
Eradication                      elm disease, says in part: "If each town would stop to  
                                 think of the value of its own elms and realize that the  
existence of the disease anywhere in the United States is a direct  
threat to their lives, the justification of the Government expenditures  
would be forcefully apparent. Probably the greatest contributing factor  
in the spread of this blight is the public indifference to the Government  
program of education."

Sealing                              Farm women in the Kansas section of the Dust Bowl are  
Against                              mobilizing to protect their families against the black dust-  
Dust Storms                        ers, though indications are that the intensity of the dust  
                                 this year will not be as bad as in 1935 or 1936, says an  
Elkhart report to the Dallas Morning News (March 2). "Sealing" parties  
are the latest social event in this region. All the women in a rural com-  
munity meet at a certain house, bring sheets and pillow cases torn in  
long strips and starched. Windows, casements and other openings of the  
house are sealed perfectly so that not a speck of dust can get inside.  
Soil Conservation Service experts helping farmers to control their drift-  
ing soil declare that this cooperation by farm women is a fine service.  
Physicians say it has done wonders in preventing colds and pneumonia which  
accompany dust storms. Progress made by S.C.S. the last two years in  
bringing more land under cover, together with more moisture last fall and  
winter, indicate that dust storms this spring will not be as frequent as  
in the past.

New Cotton                        A new method involving the drawing process in cotton  
Drawing                              textile mills has been developed as a result of two years  
Process                              of research carried on in the textile division of the state  
                                 engineering experiment station located at the Georgia  
School of Technology, it was announced recently. Results of the experi-  
ments, which have been made in cooperation with the Textile Foundation  
and the Cotton Manufacturer's Association of Georgia, are expected to  
bring about a saving of between \$500,000 and \$1,500,000 to cotton tex-  
tile mills in Georgia during the next five years. Working under the direc-  
tion of Prof. C. A. Jones, B. B. Peacock, Textile Foundation research  
fellow, has evolved through research a new conception of high speed  
operation for the cotton drawing process for textile mills. The results  
of Peacock's experiments are announced through the publication of Techni-  
cal Bulletin No. 1, "Studies in the Cotton Drawing Process--Effect of  
Roll Speed on Tensile Strength of Spun Yarn."

Soil Program                        A Bozeman report in the Great Falls (Montana) says  
Ends Snow Drifts that the snow plow has not been needed on the county road  
                                 near Fred Wheeler and his neighbors. Previous to this  
year, Wheeler's field, with a 9 percent slope, has done an excellent job  
of piling up snow on the road, says M. P. Hansmeier, extension conserva-  
tionist, explaining the change. This winter it is different. Wheeler  
constructed a series of pasture terraces along the field as part of his  
farm program in cooperation with the S.C.S. Now the snow does not pile  
up on the road and the winter traffic problem is solved, and Wheeler says  
he has hopes of making his field produce.



# DAILY DIGEST

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Section 1

March 11, 1938

**6-YEAR PLAN FOR WATER RESOURCES** A six-year plan to harness the nation's water resources at an over-all cost of \$2,124,867,000 to federal, state and local governments was sent to Congress by President Roosevelt yesterday in a report by the National Resources Committee. The President said it would be a guide for future water conservation and control projects. In addition to the principal water conservation and control projects, the report covered such undertakings as rural water supply development, beach erosion control, recreational waters, wild-life conservation and hydrologic investigations. (Press.)

**FARM-INDUSTRY COMMUNITIES** M. L. Wilson, Under-Secretary of Agriculture, told the Senate Committee on Unemployment yesterday that a new type of decentralized industrial community which would permit young people to raise some of their own produce on small acreage in their spare time was a partial answer to the problem of the millions of potential younger farmers now dammed up on farms. Basing his arguments on the statement that urban industrial opportunities in the future would not be so plentiful as in the past, Mr. Wilson said that the flow of young people from farms to cities would be less constant hereafter. (New York Times.)

**TRADE PACT STATEMENTS** Designation of trade agreement countries and summaries of trade with these countries, compared with non-agreement countries, is a feature of the new monthly statement of foreign trade by countries, the first of which was made public yesterday by the Department of Commerce. The statement also was enlarged to include all nations with which trade was transacted during the month. Alexander V. Dye, director of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, said the form was revised to meet many requests for information on the progress of trade with the nations which have been embraced by Secretary Hull's reciprocal trade agreement program. (Press.)

**PROCESSING TAXES** Senator Pope, an author of the administration's farm program, said yesterday that he was drafting a new system of processing taxes designed to raise \$200,000,000 annually. About \$500,000,000 a year now is available for financing the farm program, but Mr. Pope said this would be inadequate. A tentative plan, he said, would coordinate a system of taxes on cotton, wheat, rice and possibly tobacco with the tariffs on the commodities. (Associated Press.)



**Military Road**            The Senate Commerce Committee this week reported in Washington favorably the Copeland bill authorizing the closing of Military Road so Washington Hoover Airport may extend its flying field at its own expense. While similar to a measure passed by Congress last year and vetoed by President Roosevelt, the new bill does not include the Department of Agriculture's experimental farm or the lagoon in the deal. The Copeland bill provides for payment by the airport owners of \$25,000 to Arlington County for building a substitute highway and for leasing of the portion of Military Road near Arlington Cemetery by the Secretary of War at \$1 a year. (Washington Post.)

**Hopper Bait**            "Wholesale distribution of poison bait is required  
**Spreader**            in heavy infestations of grasshoppers," says F. J. Lang in Capper's Farmer (March). "Equipment that will do the job in a hurry is necessary first to protect crops and second to keep the bait from drying. Farmers in Douglas County, Colorado, discovered that a mechanical spreader, made from the rear wheels and axle assembly of a model T Ford, was the most satisfactory device. The drive shaft is cut off and turned up to almost vertical position. To the cut end a disk or rotating table is attached. Four 4-inch blades are mounted on the upper surface of this spreader table to scatter poison bait.. 'Our spreaders were made from detailed plans prepared and sent out by the Colorado Agricultural College,' said W. H. Gunther, Douglas County agent. 'The leaflet gives full details and contains drawings of the parts and of the completed machine so that any farmer who sends for them can go to a wrecking lot, get an old car and construct a spreader..'"

**Insect Pest**            Field offices to direct activities for the protection  
**Control**            of crops from two of the country's most destructive insect pests--grasshoppers and Mormon crickets--have been set up in Minneapolis and Salt Lake City, the Department says. The emphasis in this year's control program against grasshoppers and Mormon crickets will be crop protection, according to Lee A. Strong, Chief of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine. Control measures found effective in the past--poison bait for the hoppers and poison dust for the crickets--will be used. Unless conditions unfavorable to grasshopper development intervene, heavy infestations of this pest may be expected in 24 states from Michigan to the Pacific Coast and from the Canadian border to Mexico. Seven of these states--Montana, Idaho, Utah, Colorado, Wyoming, Nevada and Oregon--also face heavy infestations of Mormon crickets.

**Chemistry**            An article in the series of those on vitamins in  
of Thiamin            the Journal of the American Medical Association is "The Chemistry of Thiamin (Vitamin B<sub>1</sub>)" in the March 5 issue, by Robert R. Williams. He says "to promote the adoption of a universally acceptable term, based on the chemistry of the substance, I have proposed 'Thiamin' (chloride, bromide, sulfate and so on) pending action of the Conference on Vitamin Standardization."



Senate,                   The Senate continued debate on the reorganization  
Mar. 9                   bill (S.3331) (pp. 4106-4117). Mr. Davis spoke in de-  
                          fense of the civil service system and opposed the pro-  
vision which would change the Civil Service Commission to the Civil  
Service Administration.

Messrs. Bridges, Norris and other Senators discussed the proposed  
investigation of the Tennessee Valley Authority (pp. 4103-4106 and 4117-  
4138).

The Senate Committee on Commerce reported with amendments S. 3304  
to promote air commerce by providing for the closing of Military Road.  
(S.Rept. 1482).

House,                   The House received from the President a supplemental  
Mar. 9                   estimate of \$1,800,000, fiscal years 1938 and 1939,  
                          Department of Agriculture, for retirement of cotton pool  
participation-trust certificates (H.Doc. 535); referred Committee on Ap-  
propriations.

Bills introduced: in Senate, by Mr. Davis, S. 3632, providing for  
the compensation of Government scientific illustrators in accordance  
with the profession and scientific compensation schedule under the Clas-  
sification Act of 1923,\*\*\*; referred Committee on Civil Service; by Mr.  
Vandenberg, S. 3640, increasing the funds available for industrial loan  
purposes from \$300,000,000 to \$1,000,000,000 and providing for develop-  
ment of greater industrial use of farm commodities; referred Committee  
on Agriculture and Forestry; Mr. Vandenberg inserted a statement explain-  
ing this bill (pp. 4102-4103); in House, by Mr. Bindrup, H.R. 9800, to  
restore to Congress the sole power to issue money and regulate its value\*\*\*:  
to restore full employment and production; to prevent inflation and de-  
pression; and to provide a stable currency; referred Committee on Banking  
and Currency; by Mr. South, H.J.Res. 610, authorizing cotton price pay-  
ments with respect to cotton destroyed by fire or other unavoidable natu-  
ral cause; referred Committee on Agriculture.

Items in appendix: speech by Senator Wheeler, March 8, during de-  
bate on the reorganization bill, in opposition to the bill (pp. 4172-  
4188); radio address by Secretary Wallace, March 7, explaining the Agri-  
cultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (pp. 4199-4201); radio address by Mr.  
Knut Hill of Washington, March 9, "Planning for Plenty; 'The Economy  
of Abundance' to Replace the Economy of Scarcity" (pp. 4207-4208); ex-  
tension of remarks of Mr. Wene, favoring his bill (H.R. 9666) to provide  
for the construction of transcontinental, toll, superhighways (pp. 4209-  
4214). (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

### Improvement of Milk

The American City (March) prints a review of the American Municipal Association's forthcoming report on milk control. Among things remaining to be done to insure the safety of our milk supply, the report lists these: (1) with bovine tuberculosis practically eliminated,

it is now necessary to eliminate Bang's disease. This can best be achieved by adoption of laws by federal and state governments guaranteeing compensation for destroying reactors and by prohibiting the transport of non-tested cattle across state lines; (2) more accurate reporting of milk-borne infection outbreaks is needed. There is still room for improvement in the investigation and identification of the cause of such outbreaks, by the more accurate analysis of consumers' and dealers' sources of supply of milk and milk products; (3) achievements in milk control serve to illustrate the fact that milk regulations should be uniformly applied to all phases of production, processing and distribution if they are to have any real value.

### World Poultry Exposition

"From July 28 to August 7, 1939, Cleveland, Ohio, will be host to the Seventh World's Poultry Congress and Exposition," says Julia Kiene in *Capper's Farmer* (March).

"...Ninety-six nations have been asked to participate in the forthcoming congress and to bring an exhibit representative of the poultry industry in their country. Our own 48 states also have been invited to send individual state exhibits, so that there may be a complete panorama of the poultry industry of the United States. Every phase of the poultry industry will be portrayed. There will be modern farms, exhibits of feed supplies, incubators, brooders. One section will be devoted entirely to the youth of America and another to the consumer...Rural America will play host to the biggest international event staged in America for many years. Any poultry producer desiring further details about the congress, exhibits, and special features, may obtain the information by writing to W. D. Ter-mohlen, secretary-general, Seventh World's Poultry Congress and Exposition, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C."

### Purple Corn Disease

Experiments in the study of "purple corn," a seedling trouble that appeared last May and June in some fields in Logan County (Illinois) and resulted in reduced yields, will be continued this spring, the Logan County Farm Bureau has announced, according to the *Bloomington Pantagraph* (March 3). Prof. H. L. Snyder of the University of Illinois conducted an investigation there last season when the complaints about corn turning purple soon after it was through the ground were filed with County Adviser N. A. Anderson. Similar conditions were noted in other counties of the district. The investigations indicated that the plants suffered from a poisonous or toxic condition in the soil due to excessive amounts of manganese, a condition found only where corn followed wheat.



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXVIII, No. 50

Section 1

March 14, 1938

## FARMERS VOTE FOR FARM ACT

The decision of cotton and tobacco growers as expressed in referenda Saturday to use marketing quotas this year under the new Farm Act was hailed by Administrator H. R. Tolley of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration as indicating the "overwhelming" support which these farmers will give to the new farm program. He said that the size of the vote, probably more than 1,500,000 on cotton alone, was more gratifying than the way in which the farmers voted. "The vote has been a genuine expression of the farmers' will," he asserted. "The farm program as respects cotton and some tobaccos will have the great advantage of overwhelming support of the cotton and tobacco farmers." (New York Times.)

## BRITISH TRADE PACT HEARING

More than 400 witnesses have asked to be allowed to testify at hearings beginning today on the pending reciprocal trade agreement with the United Kingdom. Among them are members of Congress, State officials and business men from all parts of the United States. The hearings, to last ten days, will range through American commercial life, from sheep raising to button manufacturing. More than 25 members of Congress are to appear. Among these are Representatives from the Atlantic seaboard, where textile, shoe and other manufacturers have expressed belief a trade agreement with Britain may work industrial hardship. (Associated Press.)

## RECREATION CONFERENCE

A sounder policy of conservation is taking form, according to Dr. W. Elmer Ekblaw, geographer of Clark University, who spoke Saturday before the nature study and forestry sections of the Outdoor Recreation Conference now being held at Massachusetts State College. In the pioneer stage, he said, "use of land is guided solely by need or expediency." In a second stage, he added, there is usually "a reclamation policy which may be as thoughtless, as careless as the first, formulated in sentiment rather than sense, in alarm rather than considered good judgment." The third stage, he declared, brings "the final adjustment of man to the attributes of his place" and "it is apparently to this third stage of wise conservative utilization that we are attaining." (New York Times.)

## AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION

The Committee on Agricultural Cooperation of the National Association of Manufacturers will meet with a group of Northwestern States farmers for a two-day round-table discussion of problems common to farming and industry at Ithaca, New York, on Wednesday and Thursday. The meeting will mark another step in a movement launched more than two years ago by a group of manufacturers to make the entire manufacturing industry aware of the importance of agriculture to industrial welfare. (Press.)



## Section 2

Cattle                      In The Lancet (London, February 26) L. Alywin  
Diseases                      Richardson writes on infection with *Brucella abortus*  
                              treated with prontosil; and A. E. Francis writes on sul-  
phanilamide in the treatment of undulant fever. The cases described  
are in humans.

Fruit                      A compact but complete manual of international fruit  
Annual                      marketing and exporting is found in The Fruit Annual and  
                              Directory 1937-38, published by the British Continental  
Press, London. A chapter on Fruit Growing in the United States was pre-  
pared by J. C. Taylor, American agricultural attache in London (BAE).  
Centers of production, fresh fruit seasons, dried and canned fruits and  
exports statistics are discussed at some length and in detail. (Florida  
Fruit Grower, March.)

Amusement                      Out of every dollar spent for amusement by American  
Expenditures                      families in 140 villages studied by the Bureau of Home  
                              Economics, more than 29 cents went for movies, says a re-  
port in the New York Times. The study covered 9,407 families for a 12-  
month period in 1935 and 1936. Every type of expenditure for amusement,  
including pets and toys for the children, was studied. The average spent  
per family per year for the movies was \$12 in New England villages; \$10  
in the Central and Atlantic State; \$16 in the Mountain and Plains States;  
\$15 in the Pacific States; and \$16 for the white families of the south-  
eastern villages.

Electricity                      The United States trails many of the major countries,  
for Farms                      including France, England and Japan, in providing elec-  
                              tricity to rural areas, C. O. Falkenwald, assistant di-  
rector of the Rural Electrification Adminis<sup>tration</sup>, said recently. He said  
that while Japan could boast electric service for 90 percent of its  
rural area, only 700,000 out of 3,800,000 farm homes in the United  
States have electricity. He said the Government rural electrification  
program would not duplicate existing power lines, adding that the REA  
functioned as a loaning organization, not in competition with private  
industry. (Washington Post.)

Seek Tung Oil                      Robert D. Potter, Science Service Writer, says in a  
Substitute                      copyright article that science is seeking a substitute  
                              for tung oil in paints. He says in part: "Soon you will  
be hearing more about this oil (oiticica) which comes from pecan-like  
nuts from Brazil's oiticica tree. Oiticica oil is the only vegetable-  
oil, available in commercial quantities, which rivals tung oil in its  
properties...Research is showing how the oil can give both smooth and  
crinkly surfaces to paints and lacquers...Oiticica oil seems specially  
adapted for use with phenolic resin lacquers of which bakelite is typical.  
The crushing of the nuts in northern Brazil is now done in modern fac-  
tories which bid fair to set up a new oil source..."



Senate,                    Mr. Bankhead inserted in the Record and discussed  
Mar. 10                    briefly an amendment of his to the reorganization bill  
                             (pp. 4242-4243) providing that if 25 percent of the mem-  
bership of either House of Congress so request, approval of Congress must  
be obtained before any executive order issued under the bill shall be  
come effective. Several amendments were also submitted by Mr. Byrnes  
(p. 4218).

Messrs. Davis, Copeland, Clark and Norris discussed the proposed  
investigation of the Tennessee Valley Authority (pp. 4237-4239 and 4243).

Both Houses received a message from the President transmitting a  
comprehensive plan for the conservation and development of the Nation's  
water resources; referred Senate Committee on Commerce and House Commit-  
tee on Rivers and Harbors (pp. 4215-4216 and 4247).

House,                    The House continued debate on the revenue bill of  
Mar. 10                    1938 (pp. 4247-4289). Among the amendments agreed to  
                             were: by Mr. Fred M. Vinson and Mr. Boileau; repealing  
the excise tax on certain kinds of lumber (pp. 4248-4252); by Mr. Thomp-  
son of Illinois; imposing an excise tax upon the importation of pork  
products (pp. 4264-4268).

Bill introduced: in House, by Mr. Flannagan; H.R. 9817, to amend  
section 312 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938; referred to Com-  
mittee on Agriculture.

Items in appendix: radio address by Senator Schwellenbach, March  
10, favoring the reorganization bill (pp. 4293-4294); speech by Mr. Stef-  
an of Nebraska, on the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, in the  
House February 8, 1938 (pp. 4297-4298); extension of remarks of Mr.  
Smith of Maine, favoring an excise tax on lumber (pp. 4298-4299).

Senate,                    The Senate continued debate on the reorganization  
Mar. 11                    bill (S. 3331).

The Senate passed without amendment S. 3655, to amend section 312  
of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 to permit burley tobacco pro-  
ducers to have a referendum and establish marketing quotas (p. 4332).  
The bill was introduced by Mr. Barkley and reported from the Committee  
on Agriculture and Forestry earlier in the day (p. 4315).

An agreement was reached for a vote Monday, March 14, on the con-  
ference report on S. 1077, to amend the Federal Trade Commission Act,  
after speeches by Messrs. Copeland and Wheeler (pp. 4338-4341 and 4343-  
4346). A House amendment to the bill provides for control of false ad-  
vertising of food, drugs, by the Federal Trade Commission, and Mr. Cope-  
land opposes this provision, believing that such activities should be

centered in the Food and Drug Administration. Mr. Wheeler, who is chairman of the Committee on Interstate Commerce, which has charge of the bill, will support the conference report in his speech. The House agreed to the conference report on the bill February 14.

The Senate recessed until Monday, March 14.

House, By a vote of 293 to 97 the House passed the revenue  
Mar. 11 bill of 1938 (pp. 4350-4356). The amendments repealing  
the excise tax on certain kinds of imported lumber and  
imposing an excise tax on imported pork products were agreed to.

The House adjourned until Monday, March 14.

Bills introduced in House: by Mr. Keller: H. R. 9833, to provide a minimum State cotton allotment, under the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, of not less than 8,000 acres in certain cases; referred Committee on Agriculture; by Mr. Steagall: H.R. 9838, to extend for one additional year the  $2\frac{1}{2}$ -percent interest rate on certain Federal land bank loans, to provide a 4-percent interest rate on such loans for the period July 1, 1939, to June 30, 1940, and to provide a 4-percent interest rate on land bank commissioner's loans for one additional year; referred Committee on Agriculture; by Mr. Luther A. Johnson: H.J.Res. 616, to provide funds to enable the Secretary of Agriculture to carry into effect the provisions of title IV of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, which relates to cotton pool participation trust certificates; referred to Committee on Appropriations.

Bill approved by the President: H.R. 9361, to maintain unimpaired the capital of the Commodity Credit Corporation at \$100,000,000. Approved March 8, 1938 (Public No. 442, 75th Congress).

Items in appendix: address by R. J. Laubengayer before the Kansas Livestock Association, March 3, on farm legislation (pp. 4368-4370); extension of remarks of Mr. Rees, of Kansas, "The American Farmer is Entitled to a Chance to Supply the American Market" (pp. 4380-4381); extension of remarks of Mr. Boren, of Oklahoma, "Civil Service and Its Relation to Democracy" (p. 4383). (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Farmers' Fire Insurance The 1,941 farmers' mutual fire insurance companies now operating in the United States have in force enough fire insurance to cover to three-fourths its value, considerably more than half of all the farm property in the United States which is subject to insurance against fire. This was revealed recently by V. W. Valgren, principal agricultural economist of the Farm Credit Administration in reporting on a study recently completed. (F.C.A. 9-22.)



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXVIII, No. 51

Section 1

March 15, 1938

## PRESIDENT ON FORESTRY

President Roosevelt recommended federal action yesterday to end the denuding of forests and to rehabilitate a "No Man's Land" of cut-over acres. In a special message to Congress, he urged that House and Senate establish a joint committee to study the problem and propose legislation for enactment next year. "States, communities and private capital can do much to help," he said. "But the fact remains that, with some outstanding exceptions, most of the States, communities and private companies have, on the whole, accomplished little to retard or check the continuing process of using up our forest resources without replacement." (Associated Press.)

## MIGRATORY FARM LABOR

Professor Paul S. Taylor of the University of California, authority on migratory farm labor, told the Senate Committee on Unemployment yesterday that the problem of handling such families transcended state powers and responsibilities and suggested that interstate cooperation, guided by federal leadership, was the logical basis for effective action. Russell H. Kurtz of the Russell Sage Foundation, speaking for the National Committee on the Care of Transient and Homeless, proposed a program of Federal participation in providing for the needs of transient, migrant or non-resident persons and families. Professor Taylor, who described personal observations and studies he had made of the working and living conditions of migratory farm laborers and their families, declared that more agricultural laborers than farmers were compelled to resort to relief. (New York Times.)

## CITRUS FRUIT R.R. RATE

The Interstate Commerce Commission permitted yesterday the railroads to charge approximately the same rates as are charged on the truck-steamship route for shipments of citrus fruits in carloads from points in Florida to New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Boston, with certain reservations. The order will not apply to rates yielding less than 12 cents a car-mile for distances over operating routes, or to rates at intermediate points more than 50 percent higher than rates to the more distant points, nor to rates exceeding combinations of rates subject to the law. Where refrigerator service is provided, as permitted by the order, the railroads must pay private car owners 2 cents a mile for the use of cars in loaded and empty movements thus causing a deduction from the minimum revenue of 12 cents a car-mile revenue of four cents on each round trip, leaving a net of only 8 cents loaded car-mile. (Press.)

"A Three-Point Program"      An editorial, "A Three Point Program", in the Journal of Forestry (March) says: "The 1937 Report of the Chief of the Forest Service is an interesting document. Its greatest interest does not lie in the fact that it describes in a terse, concise manner the achievements of the Forest Service during the past year, but rather in the fact that it attempts to evaluate the present forest situation in America and to indicate a public course of action in a three-point program. The program proposes (1) increased public ownership and management; (2) extended public cooperation with private owners; and (3) public regulation of private forest lands to protect broad, vital public interests. Few informed people would take much exception to the desirability if not the necessity of this course of public action, provided it does not extend beyond certain more or less well defined limits. The three-point program sets a few but not enough of the important limits. To some extent the individual reader is permitted to set his own mark..."

Foot-and-Mouth Disease      Country Life (London, March 5) says in an item on animal disease research: "Foot-and-mouth is only one of a group of diseases which affect not only animals but human beings and plants; and it is clearly desirable that the experience of workers in other fields of virus research should be enlisted with dealing with it. This is why the Minister of Agriculture has decided to broaden the basis of the Research Committee by adding to its number members of the Medical and Agricultural Research Councils. Their advice should be particularly useful in the hitherto baffling search for an agent which will secure immunity, not against one 'type' of foot-and-mouth virus only, but against the many that are known to exist..."

Patrol for Game Law Enforcement      "Keeping pace with modern trends in law enforcement, the Ohio Conservation Division has turned to the radio and the 'prowl car' to aid in its fight against renegade gunners and discourage piracy and other violations afield in and out of legal hunting and fishing seasons. The simple telephone-to-radio system has already speeded up law enforcement to the point where many law breakers are caught even as they leave the fields. People reporting violations merely call the home of their local game warden; the message is relayed to the police broadcasting system, and from there is picked up by radio in the highway patrol cars, whose 'minute men' are quick to check on the report. The new plan was made possible by cooperation between the Conservation Division and the State Highway Patrol. All conservation field officers, too, are within a few minutes call of the Columbus offices, completing a thorough, efficient police network that has proved a major headache to those who would violate the game laws."



Home-Canned Tomato Juice      Hazel M. Hauck, of the New York State College of Home Economics, reports in the Journal of Home Economics (March) on the vitamin C content of home-canned tomato juice. In summarizing the work, she says: "The observation that home-canned tomato juice may be a good source of vitamin C is confirmed by the study here reported. Tomato juice canned in tin was found to contain approximately twice as much reduced ascorbic acid as similar juice canned in glass and stored in the dark. Reduced ascorbic acid, which was the principal form found in freshly opened tomato juice, was more stable in the juice canned in tin than in samples of the same lot of juice canned in glass. Tomato juice canned in tin lost about one fourth of its reduced ascorbic when held 4 days in the refrigerator after opening."

Missouri Seed Law      "No recently enacted statute should attract more attention among farmers than the new Missouri seed law, passed by the last General Assembly," says Tom R. Douglas in the Missouri Ruralist (March 5). "...The law seems to be at least a partial answer to some problems of prohibiting the sale of low grade seed. The strength of the law lies in the provision requiring every person, firm, or corporation (both in and out of state) selling or distributing seeds in Missouri to secure a 'seedsman's permit'...The new seed law has new provisions, requiring vegetable seeds to be labeled, including the showing of germination in case the seed tests below the table of minimum germination, promulgated and now in effect..."

Exposition of Tray Agriculture      Visitors to San Francisco's 1939 Golden Gate International Exposition on Treasure Island in the bay will be treated to one of the largest demonstrations of tray agriculture, indoor agriculture without benefit of soil or sunlight, ever held, fair officials announce. A complete garden, growing indoors under ordinary incandescent lamps with solutions of chemicals taking the place of soil, will be demonstrated at the fair.

The exhibit, he claims, will demonstrate the feasibility of city dwellers raising their own truck garden products on the roofs of their houses. The crops are harvested in from three to six weeks after planting. Seeds are placed in chemically-treated water and abundant crops follow surely and inexpensively, it was stated. (Science Service.)

Frozen Pack Display      Yakima Valley fruit growers, shippers and other interested persons were given a view of the frozen fruit industry recently when a large display of frozen fruits and vegetables was held by the frozen pack laboratory of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, in Seattle, under supervision of H.C. Dichl. (Washington Farmer, March 3.)

## Blue Mold

## Disease

"Damage from blue mold, or downy mildew, in tobacco seedbeds has cost tobacco growers of the South an additional \$5,000,000 a year in increased seedbed plantings since the disease put in its first widespread and destructive appearance six years ago," says the Southern Agriculturist (March). "This is a conservative estimate of only one expense incurred by the growers because of the disease, in the opinion of Dr. E. E. Clayton, tobacco disease specialist of the U.S. Department of Agriculture... Scientists of the Department, working in cooperation with specialists of the state experiment stations in the tobacco belt, last year found three methods by which the disease may be brought under control. The first, and most practical, is a copper oxide-cottonseed oil spray. It is comparatively simple to mix and apply, and is fairly inexpensive. The spray does not completely eliminate the disease but in large tests last year proved adequate protection even in areas where infection was at its worst. The two other methods are a gas treatment with benzol or xylol, and a heat treatment by which night temperatures are raised above 70 degrees F. Both are effective controls for the disease, but are probably too cumbersome and expensive for general use until further research has solved many of the problems of application..."

## Security

## in Farming

Progressive Farmer (March) says editorially: "We do not expect the Rust cotton picker to revolutionize cotton farming so suddenly or violently as the press predicts. But other farm machinery--as we are also pointing out (page 70) has already revolutionized many areas. For example, the Farm Security Administration tells about a large landowner who formerly employed 110 farm hands over 14 years of age to work his 1,000-acre plantation. It cost him on the average <sup>\$10,900</sup> to bring that farm to cotton picking time. He is now operating his 1,000 acres with tractors and hired labor, employing only three families full time. For chopping and picking he brings in about 100 additional hands for two or three weeks. He says it now costs him only one-fourth of what it formerly costs to grow the crop ready for picking and that, figuring all costs, he is making his cotton for about half what it cost him under the old tenant system."

## Commission

## Examination

The Civil Service/announces the following examination: Chief, Research and Statistical Service, \$5,600, Office of Education, unasssembled. Applications must be on file not later than (a) April 11, if received from states other than those in (b); (b) April 14, if received from the following states: Arizona, California, Colorado; Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, Oregon.

## Rural Sales

Daily average sales of general merchandise in small towns and rural areas were 3 percent lower in February than in February 1937, the Commerce Department announces. Sales rose from January to February by less than the usual seasonal amount, reducing the adjusted index to 100.5, compared with 104.5 in January and 103.7 in February 1937. (Press.)



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXVIII, No. 52

Section 1

March 16, 1938

**PRESIDENT ON RAILROADS** President Roosevelt indicated yesterday that consolidation of railroads might be compelled by the government as a way out of the carriers' predicament. If this were done, he said, a way would have to be found to take care of employees displaced as a result. The President mentioned the possibility at a press conference after a conference with representatives of the railroad management, security holders and workers and Federal officials concerned. The discussions will be resumed tomorrow. (New York Times.)

**FOOD AND DRUG BILL REPORTED** The House Interstate Commerce Committee reported favorably yesterday a revised version of the Copeland pure food and drugs bill, passed by the Senate nearly a year ago. The new bill is believed by its sponsors to be stronger than the Copeland bill, which in itself was offered as an attempt to strengthen the original food and drug act of 1906. The measure tightens various administrative provisions of the 1906 law and extends its terms to cosmetics, therapeutic devices like electric belts, and to compounds used for fat reducing and the inducing of other bodily changes. One important difference from the Copeland bill is the absence of supervision of false and misleading advertising, provisions to this end having just been adopted by Congress in the Wheeler-Lea bill amending Federal Trade Commission Act. (New York Times.)

**CIVIL SERVICE ADMINISTRATOR** The Senate voted yesterday to abolish the three-man Civil Service Commission and to set up instead a single Civil Service Administrator with a 15-year term of office and vast powers to control an expanded merit system. An amendment by Senator David I. Walsh of Massachusetts, to maintain the Civil Service Commission in control of the merit system was defeated, 50 to 38. (Washington Post.)

**PEANUT FUTURES** For the first time in its history the New York Produce Market Exchange traded in shelled peanuts in the futures market yesterday. The first sale was a contract for May delivery at 6.35 cents a pound. Ten contracts were made in the first hour. Contracts are for 30,000 pounds, basis U. S. Standard No. 1, shelled white Spanish peanuts, freight paid or allowed to New York. (Associated Press.)



Forestry in                    Joseph S. Illick, New York State College of Forestry, Constitutions is author of "Forestry in Our Constitutions" in the Journal of Forestry. An abstract of the article says: "Colorado was the first state to place forestry in an American constitution. Thirteen years later (1889) North Dakota provided for a state forest school in her original constitution. Only five states had constitutional provisions for forestry at the turn of the last century. Since then ten other states have included a wide range of forestry provisions in their constitutions. He quotes and interprets some of the most significant constitutional provisions and sets forth the principal administrative advantages and disadvantages of placing forestry provisions in constitutions. He emphasizes the immediate and pressing need for more and better research in the field of forest administration. Without special studies and comparative surveys the existing weaknesses of forest administration will continue; with them enduring administrative foundation and frameworks can be designed and developed."

A. B. Graham                    The retirement of A. B. Graham, of the Extension Retires                    Service, on March 31, marks more than 50 years of his life in educational work with rural people. In announcing the retirement of Mr. Graham, Dr. C. E. Smith, chief of the Division of Cooperative Extension Work, said of their long association: "His early extension work with boys and girls is remarkably similar to that of our present day 4-H clubs. His education work, both in Ohio, and since 1915 as a member of the Federal Extension staff, has stood for the highest ideals supported by enthusiasm, imagination and reality. His thousands of colleagues, friends and students in every state will wish him well through the coming years."

Mosquito                    "In the recently published Proceedings of the twenty-fourth annual meeting of the New Jersey Mosquito Extermination Association, held last spring at Atlantic City, much practical information and considerable scientific data of interest to health are to be found," says the Medical Record (March 2). "...One of the most valuable sections of the Proceedings is a summary prepared by F. C. Bishopp and Carroll N. Smith, both of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine of the Department of Agriculture, of work on mosquito control throughout the world during 1936. Valuable information is presented including directions for applying mosquito repellants for protection outdoors and in, the relation of mosquito prevalence to human comfort and health, the successful use of publicity material in mosquito control campaigns, new and significant methods of control in this country and Canada, the effect of rainfall on mosquito prevalence, studies of mass mosquito migration across bodies of water, relation of mosquito control work to other conservation activities and a number of other timely topics."



**Forest Service Administration** Less than a dozen one and two syllable words have served to guide the policies of the Forest Service in its administration of the National Forests. The words are "the greatest good to the greatest number in the long run," and their origin is told in Miscellaneous Publication 290, "Work of the United States Forest Service" just published by the Department. The publication may be obtained for 10 cents from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D.C.

**Wilt-Resistant Watermelon** "Farmers who have been forced to stop growing water-melons because their land is contaminated with the fungus that causes the wilt disease can now grow this crop successfully by using the new Hawkes Wilt Resistant watermelon that is being introduced by the Virginia Truck Experiment Station this year," says Dr. Harold T. Cook, of the Station, in the Southern Planter (March). "This new watermelon is not only resistant to wilt, but in the trials that have been conducted at Smithfield, it was of such excellent quality and type that many experienced watermelon growers who were not yet troubled with wilt expressed a desire to grow it on their farms." Stating that the seed was obtained from Australia, he says the seed is available for trial... So far none of these melons has been found affected with 'white heart'..."

**Treating Fence Posts** Professor Woodbridge Metcalf, Extension Forester for the University of California, has been experimenting successfully in treating freshly cut fence posts of a number of species of zinc chloride solution as a preventive of decay. The formula requires 21 pounds of a 50 percent zinc chloride solution mixed with 10 gallons of water. Species of wood is not important as long as there is a good thickness of sapwood and the posts are treated promptly after cutting with the bark left on. The large end of the post is elevated at least two feet and the bark peeled for about 4 inches from the end. Cut an old inner tube and slip one end of it over the end of the post and fasten tightly to prevent leakage. Fill the tube with the preservative solution. The slight pressure of the liquid will force it through the post within 24 hours, entering only the sapwood..."

**Corn Borer Control** A practical way to control the European corn borer on early market sweet corn has been found after years of work by State and Federal entomologists. Recent tests by entomologists of the Department and the Connecticut Experiment Station show that several compounds are effective in saving sweet corn, particularly the early varieties. The new insecticides are: (1) nicotine tannate solutions, prepared from nicotine, and Chinese gallo-tannin, an easily available form of tannic acid; (2) derris sprays; (3) phenothiazine (a compound of sulphur and a commercially available dye intermediate) spray; and (4) nicotine dust, a mixture of nicotine tannate power and powdered nicotine bentonite (a compound of nicotine and common clay). None of these preparations come ready mixed.



Senate,  
Mar. 14                      The Senate continued debate on the reorganization bill (S. 3331) (pp. 4437-4460). The committee amendments as printed in the bill, several clarifying amendments offered by Mr. Byrnes, and the following amendments were agreed to: by Mr. Byrnes, changing the number and method of appointing members of the Joint Committee on Public Accounts (pp. 4441-4442); by Mr. O'Mahoney, providing that civil service regulations which must now have Presidential approval must still have such approval after passage of the bill (pp. 4441-4443); by Mr. O'Mahoney, establishing departmental boards of review to consider complaints about efficiency ratings (p. 4443); by Mr. Byrnes striking out section 205, providing for Presidential appointments to policy-determining positions (p. 4443); and by Mr. Byrd, striking out sections 501, authorizing employment of certain experts and consultants (pp. 4443-4444).

The Senate agreed to the conference report on S. 1077 amending the Federal Trade Commission Act (pp. 4430-4436). Mr. Copeland spoke in opposition to the provision which would give the Commission control over false advertising of food, drugs, etc., saying such activities should be centered in the Food and Drug Administration, and Mr. Wheeler spoke in support of the conference report. This bill will now be sent to the President.

Both Houses received a message from the President, recommending a study by a joint Congressional committee, of the forest land problem (H.Doc. 539); referred Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry and House Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union (pp. 4460-4461 and 4387-4388).

The Senate Committee on Judiciary reported without amendment S. 3096, to amend the law relating to purloining, stealing or injuring government property (S.Rept. 1497).

House,  
Mar. 14                      The House Committee on Public Lands reported with amendment H.R. 8203, for the inclusion of lands in the Kanitsu National Forest, Washington (H.Rept. 1946).

Bills introduced in House: by Mr. Coffee of Nebraska, H.R. 9846, to regulate interstate and foreign commerce in seeds, to require labeling and to prevent misrepresentation of seeds in interstate commerce; to require certain standards with respect to certain imported seeds, \*\*\*; referred Committee on Agriculture; by Mr. Lenke (continuing low interests on certain farm loans); referred Committee on Agriculture.

Items in appendix: address by Gen. R. C. Marshall before Washington Society of Engineers March 2, on superhighways (pp. 4464-4467); radio address by Senator Bailey March 12, on reorganization bill (pp. 4472-4473); address by L. J. Taber, of National Grange, at National Farmers' Institute, February 18, "The American Market for the American Farmer" (pp. 4473-4475). (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)



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Vol. LXVIII, No. 53

Section 1

March 17, 1938

## GRANARY FOR CORN

Secretary Wallace urged farmers yesterday to store their corn to establish an ever-normal granary for this commodity and told them that the time limit on applications for corn loans, which were to have been in by March 31, had been extended indefinitely to advance this objective. "Now is a good time for corn producers to begin putting the ever-normal granary for corn into operation," Secretary Wallace said, "by storing on their farms a much larger percentage of their past production than they have been in the habit of storing in previous years....." (Press.)

## TARIFF RATES ON WOOL

Representatives of eastern clothing manufacturers and woolen jobbers, appearing at the hearings yesterday on the proposed British trade treaty, contended that the negotiations with Australia should be considered simultaneously. They told the Interdepartment Committee for Reciprocity Information that it was practically impossible to advocate even a starting point for revising tariff rates on wool cloths, without knowing to what extent reductions may be made later in raw wool rates in the Australian pact. Frank J. Nolan, speaking for the National Council of American Importers and Traders, suggested a reversion to rates on woolens approximating those in the tariff act of 1922, under which fabrics valued over \$2 per pound were dutiable at 45 cents and 50 percent ad valorem. (New York Times.)

## INDUSTRIALISTS MEET FARMERS

A group of prominent industrialists, most of whom were at one time farm boys, met at Ithaca, New York, yesterday on the Cornell campus with a group of Northeastern States dirt farmers to discuss their mutual problems, as guests of the New York State College of Agriculture. The industrialists were members of the committee on agricultural cooperation of the National Association of Manufacturers. The farmers were dairymen, poultrymen, master farmers and truck farmers selected as representatives of their groups by the college officials. (New York Times.)

## INCOME TAX COLLECTIONS

Heavy income-tax collections brightened the Federal budget picture last night. The Treasury announced that \$615,947,718 was collected in the first fifteen days of March, an increase of 18 percent over the similar period last year. If this rate of payment is maintained to the end of the fiscal year the Treasury will wind up with about \$170,000,000 more income-tax money than was predicted in President Roosevelt's January estimates. (Associated Press.)



Road Fund                      Opppsition to the diversion of road funds continues  
Diversion                      to grow. Colorado, Kansas, Missouri and Minnesota have  
                                 already passed amendments to their respective constitutions  
prohibiting diversion while Maine has a referendum law approved by the  
voters which amounts to virtually the same thing. In Alabama and Cali-  
fornia a proposal has passed the legislative sessions and now only awaits  
the next general election vote. In Indiana and Nevada, the measure has  
passed the first session. The latest state to join this group is Virgin-  
ia where a resolution to prohibit diversion of highway funds by consti-  
tutional amendment has recently been reported favorably to the senate by  
its courts of justice committee. (Manufacturers Record, March.)

Farm Semi-                      "A New Farm Transportation Unit" in Agricultural Engi-  
Tractor Unit neering (March) is written by F. W. Duffee, University of  
                                 Wisconsin. He says: "Probably 70 to 75 percent of all  
farm hauling in the Middle West is done within a radius of 10 miles of  
the farm-stead, in which case a tractor traveling at a speed of 10 to  
20 mph can do most of the road hauling as well as the farm hauling.  
For the occasional longer haul, it would probably be more economical to  
hire a commercial trucker than for the farmer to try to maintain his own  
truck, with the resulting expense of license, insurance and upkeep, in-  
volved. This refers to trucks of one-ton capacity or more and not to  
cut-down passenger cars which serve a useful purpose on many farms. The  
two-wheeled or semi-tractor unit which we have developed is not new in  
general principle but it does represent some new features which we be-  
lieve make it better adapted to the farm hauling problem." The author  
describes the capacity, type of bed, size of platform, semitrailer, chas-  
sis, wheels and tires, hitch, weight of the trailer and brakes.

Phosphatase Test              The American Journal of Public Health (March)  
for Pasteurization contains an article on the phosphatase test for pas-  
                                 teurization, by Walter Von Dohlen Tiedeman, New York  
State Department of Health. He says in part: "The phosphatase test has  
been used extensively during the past year by our two greatest cities--  
New York and Chicago. The Department of Health of New York City reports  
having made in excess of 10,000 tests. Similarly the Health Department  
of Chicago reports having made thousands of tests by the unmodified Kay  
and Graham technic. Both departments have found enough undertreated re-  
actions to convince them of the value of the test...Experience in the  
practical use of the phosphatase test for pasteurization convinces us  
that it has great practical value. Although continued use may reveal  
interfering substances, no serious interference has been encountered to  
date. Those health officials who recognize the importance of pasturi-  
zation of milk to public health and their responsibility to the public  
to see that milk and cream so labeled are actually pasteurized will wel-  
come this test."



Senate, The Senate continued debate on the reorganization  
 Mar. 15 bill (S. 3331) (p. 4507-4531 and 4542-4552).

House, Mr. Pierce spoke in opposition to a proposed pro-  
 Mar. 15 vision in the reciprocal trade agreement planned by the  
United States and Great Britain, to reduce the tariff  
 duty on woolen goods; saying such a provision would greatly harm the  
 sheep-raising industry (pp. 4553-4555).

Bills introduced: in Senate; by Mr. Ellender, S. 3666 to amend the  
Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938; referred Committee on Agriculture  
 and Forestry; by Mr. Smith, S. 3668, to amend the Agricultural Adjust-  
ment Act of 1938; referred Committee on Agriculture and Forestry; in  
 House, by Mr. Koppleman\*\* paying labor for regular and emergency over-  
time work in the Government service\*\*; referred Committee on Claims.

Items in appendix: statement of Mrs. Rogers of Massachusetts, before  
 Committee for Reciprocity Information, on the proposed reciprocal trade  
agreement with Great Britain (pp. 4597-4598); radio address by Secre-  
 tary Wallace, March 7, in the National Radio Forum, "Balanced Abundance  
for Farm and City" (pp. 4599-4601); digest of Agricultural Adjustment  
Act of 1938 as it relates to wheat and corn (pp. 4602-4604); letter  
 from C. W. Holman, of National Cooperative Milk Producers' Association,  
 to Mr. Snell, entitled "Tragic Dairy Outlook" (pp. 4617-4618); state-  
 ment of Mr. Wigglesworth before Committee on Reciprocity Information  
 on the proposed reciprocal trade agreement with Great Britain (pp. 4618-  
 4619); statement of Mr. Rigney before Committee for Reciprocity Informa-  
 tion, opposing free importation of sago and tapioca (pp. 4622-4623).  
 (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Frozen Food Business Week (March 12) in an article on the frozen  
 Industry food industry says that "there is a business recession  
 yet the frozen food industry is expanding more than ever  
 before." Recent deals, it says, "exemplify two important trends in the  
 industry--the movement of canners into the frozen food field and the ef-  
 forts of existing frozen food producers to tighten their control over  
 quality and quantity of their output...This year the 2,400 grower-members  
 of Washington Packers have authorized the expenditure of \$30,000 for more  
 freezing equipment. The two largest canners in the country are making  
 test packs of frozen fruits and vegetables...Of all quick-frozen foods  
 for the retail and industrial markets, vegetables account for more than  
 50 percent--and peas for almost a half of that 50 percent...Fish, fruit  
 and poultry come trailing behind, and meat accounts for the smallest  
 portion of all. Quick-frozen meat is priced high...What's in store for  
 the frozen food industry is anybody's guess. It ought to have the great-  
 est expansion it's ever had in the retail field...One thing the indus-  
 try is sure to do--it will make tremendous changes in the present manu-  
 facturing and distribution picture..."



British Trade Opinion      "Secretary Hull's proposal to negotiate a reciprocal trade treaty with England is favored by an overwhelming majority of American voters reached in nation-wide surveys conducted by the American Institute of Public Opinion," says Dr. George Gallup, Director, in the New York Times (March 16). "The surveys also reveal the highly significant fact that a majority of voters in the Republican party--the party which has consistently favored high tariffs--today approve reciprocal tariff reductions with England, even though this policy is one fostered by a Democratic Secretary of State...The institute made two nation-wide studies on the reciprocal treaty issue, using two different questions. They were: 'Do you approve of Secretary Hull's policy in seeking a reciprocal trade agreement with Great Britain?' and 'If Great Britain reduces tariffs on American goods, should we reduce tariffs on British goods?' The national vote (in two different cross sections of the country) was identical: favor Hull's policy?--Yes, 73 percent; no, 27 percent. Favor mutual tariff cuts?--Yes, 73 percent; no, 27 percent..."

"Trees, Parks and Forests"      "Trees, Parks and Forests" is a new quarterly review, concerned principally with the West. The March issue is Volume 1, No. 2. It is published at Santa Monica, California.

Recovery Problem      The American Economic Review (March) prints the presidential address delivered at the meeting of the American Economic Association --The Recovery Problem in the United States. He says in one paragraph: "Every great depression, as contrasted with minor cyclical recessions, presents a situation in which considerable and difficult shifts in the employment of labor and capital are required. This was the case in the seventies of the last century, for example, and now we have been confronted with the necessity of developing a situation in which there shall be increased output of those manufactured goods and services for which there is an elastic demand--an increase sufficient to absorb all the unemployed labor attached to industry and also to draw considerable numbers from agriculture. Only then will the agricultural problem become readily manageable. Subjected to this test, the recovery which we have made is not impressive. Industries producing manufactured consumer goods have indeed made a fair recovery; but that recovery has been supported in part by the temporary expedient of liberal government expenditure. Agriculture is doubtless in better position than four years ago, although its improvement rests upon the unsatisfactory and somewhat unstable foundation of resisted output. On the other hand, the industries producing capital goods have shown little sign of complete recovery, and such moderate recovery as has been made in rather laggard fashion has recently been reversed. Clearly it is the development of conditions under which there shall be a large and maintained increase in the demand for the products of the heavy industries that is required for recovery."



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXVIII, No. 54

Section 1

March 18, 1938

## RAILROAD REPORT

President Roosevelt appointed a three-man committee yesterday to report back to him in a week on recommendations "for immediate action by Congress in regard to the whole railroad situation, which is critical." The President named Walter M. W. Splawn, chairman of the Interstate Commerce Commission, and Commissioners Joseph B. Eastman and Charles D. Mahaffie as the committee. Stephen T. Early, White House secretary, said the committee was instructed to submit a "complete, definite and factual" report next Thursday. (New York Times.)

## AAA TAX PROPOSALS

Coincident with the opening of hearings yesterday on the new revenue bill by the Senate Finance Committee, Senator Pope of Idaho announced that he planned to introduce an amendment to the bill providing for the taxation of the finished products of the five basic commodities covered in the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938. The Senator, who was co-sponsor of the farm bill, said that his amendment would increase the revenue by about \$200,000,000. His proposal differs from the old processing taxes which were invalidated by the Supreme Court in that they would apply to the finished goods. (Press.)

## MONEY CONTROL

International monetary history was made day before yesterday when the new control devices employed by the United States and cooperating nations demonstrated their ability to overcome the "worst blow" since the tripartite agreement became effective late in 1936, a high administration official declared yesterday. It appeared that the devices resorted to in recent years to exert a stabilizing influence on international exchange had passed the supreme test, although officials were reluctant to predict what might happen next. (New York Times.)

## TARIFF ON WOOLS

The propriety of considering the tariff schedule on woolens in the trade treaty agreements was challenged yesterday by Arthur Besse of the National Association of Wool Manufacturers, New York, in asking for abandonment of negotiations on woolen rates in the proposed British trade pact. He told the Inter-departmental Committee for Reciprocity Information that Congress intended that only excessive rates should be considered in reciprocal agreements. (Press.)



**Farm Prices**                    The Bureau of Agricultural Economics looks for no no marked change during the next few months in the general level of prices received by farmers. Prices of farm products as a group have been holding fairly steady recently, following a decline of nearly 30 percent since last summer. A continued increase in exports of farm products is reported. The effect of weather conditions on the growth of spring forage crops and on the acreage sown to feed grains will become an increasingly important price factor in the domestic feed grain situation. General weakness in consumer demand for meats is affecting prices of all livestock--cattle, hogs and lambs.

**Tractor with Knee Action**        A tractor boasting of knee action and adjustable wheelbase is offered the public for the first time this spring. One man, without special tools and in a short while, can change from a standard tread to any desired row-crop setting. Rear wheels are adjustable from 56 inches to 84 inches in 4-inch steps. Front wheels are adjustable from 16 to 56 inches. The machine is powered by a 6-cylinder engine with variable speed controlled from the seat. (Successful Farming, March.)

**Slash Pine Experiment**        With a view to determine the value of planted slash pines for the naval stores industry, an experiment has recently been started near Macon, Georgia. The project, originated by Dr. Charles H. Herty, was launched by T. A. Liefeld of Lake City, Florida, Southern Forest Experiment Station, and will ascertain the possibilities of extending the naval stores industry into the lower Piedmont region. Cops have already been hung and it is believed that the results should be known in about six months. (Manufacturers Record, March.)

**FSA Program in Georgia**                "One of the greatest factors in the improvement of Georgia farm conditions has been an agency of which the general public has heard little," says an editorial in the Atlanta Constitution (March 11). "This is the Farm Security Administration, headed by R. L. Vansant, as state director...Mr. Vansant reports that the net worth of rehabilitation families has increased from an average of less than \$50 in 1935 to approximately \$500 at present. Far greater are the gains in human values. Entire family groups have been lifted from stark despair and placed on the road to good citizenship...Even more satisfying is the announcement that the cost of the program is not shoveled out from the federal treasury without return... Not only has this program benefited the loan recipients through intelligent, but not intrusive guidance, but its principles have undoubtedly extended through example to other farm families. When the immeasurable benefits of a diversification, live-at-home farm program have been brought home to the majority of the state's farmers, then will come an unequalled regeneration placing Georgia high on the list of the prosperous states of the union."



Senate,                   The Senate continued debate on the reorganization  
Mar. 16                   bill (S. 3331) (pp. 4629-4658). Much of the discussion  
                          related to the possibility of transfer of the Forest  
Service to the Interior Department.

Mr. McKellar inserted in the Record correspondence between the 15 Republican members of Congress from the New England States and Secretary of State Hull regarding reciprocal trade agreements (pp. 4627-4629).

House,                   Mr. Plumley addressed the House regarding a recent  
Mar. 16                   report of a special milk investigating committee established by the Vermont Government (pp. 4664-4666).

Bills introduced: in Senate: by Mr. Van Nuys, S. 3673, to amend section 4 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936; referred Committee on Agriculture and Forestry; in House, by Mr. Warren, H.R. 9899 to amend the Agricultural Adjustment Act, as amended, by including peanuts as a commodity to which orders under such act are applicable; referred Committee on Agriculture.

Items in appendix: address by Edward A. O'Neal, President, American Farm Bureau Federation, at National Farm Institute, Des Moines, Iowa, Feb. 19, "Tariff Equality for Agriculture" (pp. 4713-4715); statement of Edward A. O'Neal, Mar. 15, to Committee on Reciprocity Information, favoring the proposed reciprocal trade agreement with Great Britain (pp. 4715-4717); statement of Mr. Lord, of New York, Mar. 15, to Committee on Reciprocity Information, opposing the proposed trade agreement with Great Britain (pp. 4719-4720); statement of Mr. Casey, of Massachusetts, Mar. 15, to Committee on Reciprocity Information, opposing the proposed trade agreement with Great Britain (p. 4736). (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Foreign Trade           The National Foreign Trade Council made public re-  
Council Study           cently a study of benefits received by "third nations"  
                          as a result of reciprocal trade agreements between the United States and other countries, and said "the admission of imports from 'third nations' benefiting from our tariff reductions seems to have been a modest price needed for the substantial advantages of the program as a whole." The council had prepared a study of American imports from Japan in the year 1936 of all products on which duties have been reduced under the reciprocal pacts, showing they amounted to \$1,818,340. This is 1.8 percent of the value of these products imported from all countries and 3.2 percent of our total dutiable imports from Japan during the year, the council said. "In other words," the council said, "the generalization of these benefits has been a strikingly minor benefit to Japan, and there is no reason to believe that this proportion has been substantially altered at the present time."



Guides to. As an aid in safety education, the Department has Traffic Safety published the pamphlet "Guides to Traffic Safety"; prepared by the Executive Committee of the National Conference on Street and Highway Safety. It outlines the best methods known today for securing traffic safety. The discussion is brief but comprehensive, summarizing the traffic safety situation, and giving references to other published material. The report may be obtained at 10 cents a copy from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

Agricultural Dynamite "Illinois farmers are adopting explosives as an economical and practical method of cleaning silt from small drainage ditches and removing sandbars and other obstructions from large ditches," reports T. A. Pitzgen, Illinois College of Agriculture. "Typical of results from the use of explosives is that obtained at a demonstration on the farm of Quince Richardson, Moultrie County...After the explosives had been properly placed and connected and with spectators and live stock at a safe distance, a twist on the handle of the blasting machine exploded 204 pounds of dynamite at one time, excavating 239 cubic yards of silt at a total cost of \$39.26 with only eight man-hours of labor involved. In such operations emphasis is placed upon the uniformity of depth at which the explosive is placed below the surface and the accuracy of distance between charges, and is an important factor in obtaining the required excavation."

Advertising Dairy Products The Farmer (St. Paul) March 12, says editorially: "...Once more an effort is being made to organize the dairy industry for an advertising campaign. In Minnesota, for example, a Dairy Industries Committee has been created...The committee has employed a full-time manager, W. E. Olson, formerly county agent of Hubbard County. The job is to sign up at least 75 percent of the creameries, cheese factories, milk plants, ice cream makers, etc., to an agreement providing for the payment of a small sum for each 1,000 pounds of butterfat handled, probably around 40 cents. The exact amount has not been determined, but 40 cents a 100 pounds or 75 percent of the butterfat handled in Minnesota, would provide around \$25,000 a year. This money would be used to advertise dairy products. If other states joined in the movement, as hoped for, greatly increased use of milk, butter and cheese should result."

Plant Cells Live Long Flowers commonly fade quickly but their parts have been kept alive, with active cells, for as much as a year or more, by Prof. Carl D. La Rue of the University of Michigan. Prof. La Rue reports his experiments in the current issue of Science (March 11). In the experiments, parts of flowers were cleared of all forms of germ life, and kept in glass vessels on sterile culture media containing appropriate foods. Petals, stamens and other flower organs survived from 200 to 365 days. Some of them might have lived longer, but the research was discontinued at the end of a year.



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXVIII, No. 55

Section 1

March 21, 1938

## WALLACE ON MARKETING AGREEMENT

Secretary Wallace endorsed Saturday the bill of Senator McNary of Oregon to permit the Department of Agriculture to approve marketing agreements for any commodity. The agricultural marketing agreement act of last year permits such compacts for vegetables, fruits, produce and tobacco. Mr. Wallace wrote Chairman Smith of the senate agriculture committee that the department believed benefits of such programs should be available to producers of any agricultural commodity or product. (Associated Press.)

## MEXICAN TARIFF POLICIES

At a time when Mexico's tariff policy and nationalization of industry threaten strained relations with the United States, the Department of Commerce yesterday published a study of Mexican trade with the United States which showed that despite the tariff increases effected last year exports to Mexico reached the highest value of any year since 1930. The report also showed that the increases in tariffs on imports apparently had little effect on the volume of goods received from the United States, since the value of these imports continued to mount each month, with one or two exceptions, throughout the year. (New York Times.)

## PENSION LEGISLATION

Persistent pressure of veterans' organizations for extending pensions has resulted in a number of bills being favorably reported by House committees, the aggregate cost of which would exceed \$75,000,000 a year. There was a rush of measures reaching the House floor last week. Six bills, four concerning World War service, await House action, and one of these probably will be called up today under a suspension of the rules. Each bill is an amendment to existing pension laws, the general trend being for a liberalization of the laws by which benefits would be extended to several thousand persons not now eligible, with a few proposed increases to those now receiving pensions. (Press.)

## AAA AERIAL MAPPING

Airplanes will soar over farming areas of the East and Southeast this summer in a new aerial mapping program announced yesterday by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. The pilots will photograph 108,854 square miles of land to check performance under the Agricultural Conservation Program. (Associated Press.)

**Forest Permits** Some 40,000 special use permits issued by the Forest Service were in force last year on the 157 National Forest Units. They covered approximately 100 different types of uses, ranging from apiaries to wharves. By actual count there are 74 apiaries under permit on the National Forests and 69 wharves. Under Forest Service policies, permits in the National Forests are issued free for uses of a public service nature, such as schools, municipal water supplies, parks and observatories, while charges are made for commercial or private uses. Six private schools pay for their permits, but 240 schools receive permits free.

**Butterfat Record** "A new world's record for junior 2-year-olds has been recently completed by Femco Alma, owned by Femco Farms, Breckenridge, Minnesota," reports J. C. Holbert, in Successful Farming (March). "Her high test of 4.9 percent is unrivaled by other high producers of the Holstein breed and no other 2-year-old of any breed has bettered her record of 1,002 pounds of butterfat. During her 365-day period, she was milked 4 times a day. This newest world record was made at Femco Farms, the agricultural demonstration farm of the Minneapolis Tribune. Duroc-Jersey hogs and Shropshire sheep are raised there in addition to the Holstein cattle. (Successful Farming, March.)

**Power from Bacteria** In "Power from Bacteria" by M. K. Elwood, in Scientific American (March) the concluding paragraphs say:

(sulfite) "The first fermentation plants are now being planned to utilize the waste liquors in combination with sewage wastes from nearby municipalities (sewage wastes react to the Partansky-Benson (University of Washington) process in much the same way as the pulp-mill wastes).

Later on, disposal plants will probably be built for handling sulfite waste liquors alone. And although other attempts to utilize the sulfite waste liquors have not been entirely discontinued, it is almost certain that the Partansky-Benson process will be adopted by most of the pulpwood industry. Because the recovered methane powder can be used right in the pulpwood plants, eliminating the need of developing markets for a new product, the majority of the 131 pulpwood establishments in the United States will probably prefer this method of disposal. It is the perfect answer to their question: 'How can we utilize our waste liquors?'"

**Canned Cheese** The United States Army has made an initial purchase for Philippines of canned cheese for shipment to the Philippines

Department, reports the U.S. Bureau of Dairy Industry. The Army's decision to include canned cheese among the provisions in the commissary department was made after cooperative trials with the bureau had demonstrated the popularity of the product at various posts. H. L. Wilson, of the bureau, reports that natural cheddar cheese is now being canned by two companies on the West Coast and one in Wisconsin. (Southern Products Journal, March.)



March 21, 1938

Senate, The Senate continued debate on the reorganization  
Mar. 17 bill (S. 3331) (pp. 4737-4824).

on Agriculture

House, The House Committee reported without amendment S.3655,  
Mar. 17 to amend section 312 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act  
of 1938 so as to permit the producers of burley tobacco  
to have a referendum and establish marketing quotas (H.Rept. 1963). The  
same committee also reported without amendment H.R. 9817, which is identical to S. 3655 (H.Rept. 1964).

Mr. Scott inserted in the Record a statement in support of the activities of the Group Health Association (pp. 4778-4779).

Bills introduced: in Senate, by Mr. Gillette, S. 3679, to extend for two additional years the  $3\frac{1}{2}$  percent interest rate on certain Federal land bank loans, and to provide for a 4 percent interest rate on Land Bank Commissioner's loans for a period of 2 years; referred Committee on Banking and Currency; in House, by Mr. Wood, H.R. 9914, to amend the Bankhead Jones Farm Tenant Act, to increase the amount authorized to be appropriated for \*\*\* 1939, from \$25,000,000 to \$200,000,000 for loans to tenant farmers, to carry out the provisions of title 1 of such act; referred Committee on Agriculture, by Mr. Jones, H.R. 9915, to amend the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938\*\*\*; referred Committee on Agriculture.

Items in appendix: radio address by Mr. Plumley of Vermont, March 15, opposing reciprocal trade agreements (pp. 4830-4831); extension of remarks of Mr. Treadway entitled, "A Reply to Secretary Hull's letter to New England Republican Congressmen" regarding reciprocal trade agreements (pp. 4833-4835) (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

(pp. 4853-4855 and 4861-4878).

Senate, The Senate continued debate on the reorganization  
Mar. 18 bill (S. 3331). Mr. Wheeler's amendment, providing for congressional approval of executive orders relating to reorganization, was rejected by a vote of 39 to 43 (pp. 4861-4865). Among the amendments agreed to were the following: by Mr. Byrnes; prohibiting the President from abolishing any function of an agency transferred under the act (p. 4866). Mr. Byrd submitted an amendment which he and Mr. Byrnes debated, directing a 10 percent reduction in regular Government expenditures during the fiscal year 1940 (pp. 4870-4878). Messrs. Gillette, Brown of Michigan, Johnson of Colorado and Clark submitted amendments to the bill (p. 4848).

Mr. Pope submitted an amendment to the revenue bill of 1938 (H.R. 9682) providing tariff equalization fees on the manufacturing of cotton, synthetic fibers, wheat rice, tobacco and field corn. The amendment was printed in the Record (pp. 4848-4852). The Senate recessed until Monday, March 21.

House,                      The House passed without amendment S. 3655, amending  
Mar. 18                      section 312 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938  
                                to permit producers of burley tobacco to have a referendum  
and abolish marketing quotas (pp. 4880-4881). This bill will now be  
sent to the President.

The Committee on the Census reported with amendment H.R. 5659 to  
amend the act authorizing the collection and publication of statistics  
of cottonseed and cottonseed products by the Census Bureau (H.R. 1977).  
The House adjourned until Monday, March 21.

Bill introduced: in Senate, by Mr. McKellar, S. 3683, to amend  
the Classification Act of March 4, 1923, as amended, to create a mechanical service,\*\*referred Committee on Civil Service.

Item in appendix: extension of remarks of Mr. Voorhis, "Economic  
and Social Benefits of Group Health Insurance" (pp. 4439-4941). (Pre-  
pared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Clean Eggs,                      "Egg buyers pay anywhere from 12 to 20 percent less  
for Sale                      for 'dirties' (eggs with soiled shells)," says Dail in  
                                the Farm Journal (March). "The industry loses several  
millions of dollars annually because of dirty eggs. Washed eggs have  
always sold at a loss, too, because washing destroys the egg covering  
and permits excessive evaporation. Now is the method presented by E.  
M. Funk, Missouri Experiment Station's poultryman, who finds that by  
using a 1 percent lye solution, dirty eggs can be cleaned and stored  
with no more loss than with clean eggs given no treatment. A solution  
of water and lye is germicidal, odorless and inexpensive. Because of  
skin irritation, workers usually wear rubber gloves when cleaning eggs  
with it."

Quetico                      "In June 1934 the President created a 'Quetico-  
Superior                      Superior Committee' to consult with the various federal  
Report                      departments and agencies concerned, together with the  
                                State of Minnesota, in formulating a program for the es-  
tablishment of a Wilderness Sanctuary in watersheds through which runs  
the international boundary line between Canada and the United States  
west of Lake Superior, from Pigeon River to the Lake of the Woods," says  
an editorial in the New York Times (March 19). "The Committee has just  
made a report to the President urging the safeguarding of public values  
on both sides of the boundary until all properties in private hands can  
be acquired. The plan contemplates the establishment of 'one continuous  
public forest' encompassing all the border lakes and their tributaries  
in both countries and extending from Rainy Lake to Lake Superior, a dis-  
tance of 175 miles...A more appropriate boundary could not be imagined  
than has been provided by nature and planned for the mingled recreation  
of the two nations..."



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Vol. LXVIII, No. 56

Section 1

March 22, 1938

## RECORD GINNING FIGURE

The Census Bureau reported yesterday final ginning figures of the 1937 cotton crop, placing production at 18,241,726 running bales, or 18,934,153 equivalent 500-pound bales, exclusive of linters. The crop is the largest ever produced. It compared with 12,398,882 equivalent 500-pound bales in the 1936 crop, and 14,667,000 bales, the five-year (1928-32) average. Heretofore the record was 17,978,000 bales, produced in 1926. The Department of Agriculture in its final estimate of the crop in December placed indicated production at 18,746,000 equivalent 500-pound bales. (Associated Press.)

## ROPER ON BUSI- NESS PROSPECT

Secretary of Commerce Roper said last night there were signs of increased activity ahead for business. "There is evidence of resistance to further business and economic decline," he asserted in a brief radio address. "While an immediate dynamic upturn is not to be expected, yet factors that now stimulate confidence, coupled with seasonal influences, should augment the rate of activity." (Press.)

## REORGANIZATION BILL TEST

Failing in an effort to write economy objectives into the Administration's reorganization bill, foes of the measure last night sought specific exemptions of selected bureaus from the President's sweeping merger powers. The Byrd amendment, fixing 10 percent economies in regular expenditures as a prime aim of the program, was overwhelmingly defeated, 58 to 26. Senator Key Pittman of Nevada, immediately offered an amendment to exempt the Forest Service of the Agriculture Department from abolition or transfer. (Washington Post.)

## RUSSIAN FOREIGN TRADE

The Soviet Customs Administration reported yesterday, says a Moscow wireless to the New York Times, a favorable foreign trade balance of more than \$77,000,000 for 1937 coincident with a heavy fall in the German export trade and unfavorable balances in the foreign trade of Great Britain, Japan, Italy and Poland. Great Britain remained in the first place as the largest buyer of Soviet goods. The United States came second. The Soviet Union bought nearly \$50,000,000 worth of goods from the United States last year while it sold to the United States \$27,000,000 worth, whereas Britain's sales to the Soviet Union were slightly under \$40,000,000 and her purchases \$133,000,000.

Water                    "Treatment of textile fabrics to prevent wetting or  
Repellant               staining by water or other liquids has been a serious  
Textiles                problem of the textile industry," says D.E.K. in Scien-  
                             tific American (April). "Lately several new agents for  
treating cloth have been developed which resist wetting and which do  
not otherwise change the properties of the fabric. Some of these are  
based on the incorporation of wax or wax-like materials into the fiber  
itself and others produce water-repellent surface coatings on the out-  
side of the individual fibers. Such treatments have been developed  
which are highly resistant to laundering and dry cleaning. One of the  
advantages of these treatments is that many stains which ordinarily  
get on cloth in water solutions (ink, fruit juices and so on) cannot  
attach themselves to the fibers after treatment."

Stabilization        Roads and Streets (March) contains Part II of "A  
of Roads               Short Course in Soil Stabilization" based on exhibit of  
                             the Bureau of Public Roads displayed at the recent road  
show--After C. A. Hogentogler, Bureau of Public Roads, and by Victor  
J. Brown, Publishing Director, Roads and Streets, and C. A. Hogentogler,  
Jr., George Washington University. Other articles are "Action Program  
to Advance Safety on Highways" by Thomas H. MacDonald, Chief of the  
Bureau of Public Roads; "Preparation and Properties of Blast Furnace  
Slag, by D. G. Runner, Bureau of Public Roads; and "The Management of  
Highway Grading" by J. L. Harrison, Bureau of Public Roads.

One-Day                "Holding of one-day dairy cattle shows is an idea  
Dairy Shows           which is becoming quite popular, especially in the Mid-  
                             western States," says E.M.C., Wis., in Successful Farming  
(March). "Most of these shows are held upon a breed basis. Thus we  
have the Jersey parish shows, the Guernsey district shows and Holstein  
black-and-white shows. The one-day show is not a new idea, but its  
increasing popularity is due to the ease with which it is staged, its  
educational features, and the publicity and promotional value in  
extending the use of better dairy stock...At most of the shows no prize  
money is given although ribbons are awarded. Many of the shows are us-  
ing the group plan of judging, which seems to meet with the approval of  
the exhibitors and spectators. An important feature...is the holding  
of educational demonstrations and judging contests...Fifteen local one-  
day production shows were held in Wisconsin last year and a large, state-  
wide dairy show at which 424 head of dairy cattle were shown by 110 ex-  
hibitors. Five of these shows were strictly 1-breed affairs...Some  
states use the local show as an elimination event to make up a show herd  
to be exhibited at a regional or state fair. This brings in the small  
breeders as nothing else can."



**Terminal Grain Service** A program to replace the terminal grain marketing service of the Farmers National Grain Corporation, now being dissolved, is announced by the Illinois Agricultural Association in its current March Record. The Illinois Grain Corporation, affiliated with the I.A.A., formerly dependent on the Farmers National for terminal marketing services, will be capitalized by the sale of \$125,000 of preferred 6 percent stock so it can engage in the terminal business to replace the Farmers National. The I.A.A. board recently authorized investment of I.A.A. funds up to \$60,000, providing a like amount is raised by the farmers' elevator members and many county farm bureaus also have indicated their interest in subscribing for stock, said the I.A.A.

**Farm Family Resources** Rural America (March) is devoted to "Resources of the Farm Family", a report of the third national conference on the rural home, sponsored by the American Country Life Association.

**Breeding Ducks for Market** Most of the market ducks in the United States are of the Pekin variety, and according to A. R. Lee of the Bureau of Animal Industry, the best commercial flocks are remarkably uniform in size and quality. This is probably due, he says in an article in the current Yearbook of Agriculture, to a considerable degree of inbreeding in the variety. Nearly all the Pekin ducks in the country are descended from a relatively small number of imported birds. Ducks offer a virgin field for poultry breeding research--since little has been done in the way of scientific duck breeding--and there is an excellent opportunity for the investigation of the inheritance of meat characters in ducks. (Utah Farmer, March 10.)

**Future Science** The New York Railroad Club was told recently that in 1963 the average man may be getting his food from "soilless farms", living in a world from which bacteria will be vanquished, wearing clothing of fireproof artificial fabrics made from cellulose or spun glass and occupying a house lighted, cooled, heated, humidified and air-cleaned automatically the year round by electricity. This picture of living conditions 25 years hence was painted by G. Edward Pendray, assistant to the president of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company and science writer. These forecasts, Mr. Pendray said, are based on his belief that the world today is beginning to use scientific developments that were known 25 years ago. Inasmuch as most of the developments he described have been achieved by scientists, he deduced that they will be in use in a quarter of a century. Mr. Pendray said that by 1963 the average man's library might consist of small spools of film, one roll, the size of a watch, representing a complete volume, which would be read with the aid of a projecting machine smaller than a typewriter. He will get weather reports based on regular rocket soundings of the upper atmosphere and he may take an interest in the first attempts to shoot an automatically controlled rocket across the Atlantic, carrying mail and express. (New York Times.)

### Farm Drainage Systems

"Farm drainage systems can save thousands of farmers a good many dollars and are, therefore, deserving of the attention they receive," says Successful Farming (March). "Illinois farmers laid more drain tile in 1937 than in any year since 1927. Indiana farmers checked wet spots in drained fields the past winter where for some reason the lines had become obstructed. Minnesota county boards were advised that it would be discreet to look into main drainage lines, clear them out, check outlets, and be otherwise forewarned. Fires glow again in tile kilns. The tile manufacturer's reputation is one of the surest guarantees as to quality. Concrete tile of good quality is frost resistant but will go to pieces in excessive soil alkalies or in high acid peats. Brittle clay tiles break easily, soft ones lack strength, disintegrate sometime between fall and spring when subjected to freezing and thawing."

### Cattle Prices Steady

Cattle prices are expected to remain near present levels during the next several months, says the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. In view of the unusually sharp decline in prices of the better grades of cattle from October through January, the bureau does not expect much further decline, even though slaughter supplies of such cattle are likely to increase seasonally during the spring months. During late summer and fall seasonal improvement in prices of the better grades of cattle may take place. This improvement, however, may not be marked unless a considerable upturn should occur in industrial activity and employment. For the lower grades of cattle, prices usually advance in the spring season. But this spring the present narrow spread between prices of the better grades of slaughter <sup>cattle</sup> and the lower grades may serve to prevent any material rise in prices of the lower grades of market cattle.

### Consumers' Milk Cooperatives

"Consumers' cooperatives for the distribution of milk are one of the newest yardsticks for measuring the distribution cost of a farm product," says Col. L. Brown in Country Gentleman (April). "New York State has granted a milk-distributing license to a New York City consumers' cooperative which, if it carries out its intentions, will engage in the distribution of milk with the expressed purpose of reducing milk prices to its consumer members. The plan is to procure milk direct from producers or producers' cooperatives, pasteurize, bottle and distribute it in the same manner as the private distributors are doing. For some time many individuals have contended that the costs of milk distribution are unreasonably high. The belief prevails that the profits involved in distribution are sufficiently high so that a consumers' organization could sell to its members at lower prices...These cooperatives, if properly conducted, will provide several yardsticks of interest to milk producers."



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXVIII, No. 57

Section 1

March 23, 1938

## PACKAGING CONFERENCE

The great strides made by the packaging industry and pleas for "all the facts" on packing labels were voiced in addresses yesterday before the opening sessions of the eighth annual packaging conference. More than 5,000 packaging, packing and shipping executives from all over the country attended the first of the four-day forum sponsored by the American Management Association. Ivan Miller of New York, food magazine editor, pointed out that packaging had gone far since the "horse and buggy days." Influences which have changed packaging, he told the executives, were the "movement from the farm to the city, the expansion of the chain store and the automobile, the motor truck, the telephone and the radio ...." (New York Times.)

## SEED BILL APPROVED

The Senate Agriculture Committee approved yesterday a bill to exempt from sale because of loans owed Federal agencies such seeds as are needed by farmers for planting. Senator Nye, author of the measure, said that during recent droughts and crop disasters farmers who had obtained government seed loans were frequently required, because of government loan liens, to sell seed they needed for the following season. (Associated Press.)

## LABOR BOARD RULING

The National Labor Relations Board last night extended its jurisdiction to agricultural co-operatives, issuing a cease and desist order against the North Whittier Heights Citrus Association, Puente, Calif. It directed the co-operative association of 200 citrus fruit growers, to reinstate with back pay 27 packing house workers; to refrain from spying on union meetings, and to cease interfering with the rights of employees to organize for collective bargaining. The decision was the first involving corporations organized under the California co-operative marketing associating laws. (United Press.)

## SEARS, ROEBUCK YEARLY RECORD

Sears, Roebuck & Co., had the largest sales and profits in their history in the fiscal year ended on January 31, 1938, General Robert E. Wood, president, reported yesterday in his annual statement to stockholders. Net profit amounted to \$30,828,248, or \$5.58 a capital share, compared with \$30,660,199, or \$5.55 a share on the same basis in the preceding fiscal year. Net sales increased 8.5 percent to \$537,242,400. He added that the company's sales had held up well in the rural areas in the last year. (Press.)



## Section 2

Dutch Elm  
Disease  
In England

"The Report of the Forestry Commissioners on the Dutch Elm disease for 1937 has recently been made public," says an editorial in Country Life (London, March 12).

"The disease appears to be making little headway; but, on the other hand, the Commissioners are of the opinion that, if the conditions are favourable to its spread, a serious attack may be anticipated during the current year. Little knowledge is available regarding the climatic conditions which favour the spread of the fungus, but it is now definitely recognised that the bark beetle is the chief agent of infection, and it would seem that scientific research should direct its line of attack against the beetle to check the spread of the disease. It is disappointing to read that 'the disease is too extensive in England to allow of its eradication being considered as a practicable measure,' and to learn that the Commissioners still discourage the planting of elms in England and Wales unless they are used in a mixed plantation. A great deal of work has been carried out recently on the relative resistance to attack of the various species of elms, and, while complete immunity seems as far removed as ever, it is encouraging to note that some strains have been raised that, so far, have proved quite resistant, and can be recommended to prospective planters."

"On Way  
To The  
Coolers"

"Kansas farmers," says the leading article in Kansas Farmer (March 12), "are on the way to the coolers with next summer's supply of meat, vegetables and fruits. Some of them are taking their beef and pork already cut and wrapped at home, and storing in improvised lockers in cold storage plants. Others place their wrapped meats in baskets or boxes and set them on open shelves in ice plants, where an attendant supervises every customer's periodical trips into the cooler after supplies. But the popular system of family food preservation is in the modern plants found over Kansas today, where the equipment consists of 4 rooms--chill room, cutting room, freezer room and locker room. This is the procedure of every farm family storing and using properly preserved foods. Beef and lamb are hung in the chill room for 3 days to 3 weeks at a temperature of 32 to 24 degrees. Fresh pork is chilled for 5 to 6 days, being hung up immediately after butchering. Then these meats are cut and wrapped by an expert butcher. The charge for chilling, cutting, wrapping and freezing is 1 cent a pound. After wrapping, the meat is placed in a freezer room at 4 to 10 degrees below zero for about 12 hours. Then it is placed in individual lockers, to which every patron has his own key. Beef and lamb can be stored safely at the constant temperature of 15 degrees above zero, for as long as 12 months. But it is necessary to chill it properly, then freeze it hard, and hold it at a constant temperature during the year. Fresh pork can be stored safely by this method for 6 months. This cannot be done unless slow chilling and constant cold are maintained..."



Congress, The Senate continued debate on the reorganization  
March 21. bill (S. 3331) (pp. 4954-4979). Mr. Byrd's amendment,  
directing a 10 percent reduction in Government expenditures,  
was rejected (pp. 4954-4972). Mr. Pittman's amendment forbidding  
transfer of the Forest Service became the pending amendment (pp. 4972-  
4979). It also agreed to S. Res. 205, continuing the investigation of  
the American Cotton Cooperative Association (p. 4979).

The Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry reported with  
amendments S. 3668, making miscellaneous amendments to the Agricultural  
Adjustment Act of 1938 (S. Rept. 3668) (p. 4953).

A petition from the Legislature of California urged the Secretary  
of Agriculture not to make any reductions in the number of livestock  
grazed on the Modoc National Forest until a survey is made to determine  
the normal carrying capacity of the Forest; ref. Committee on Agriculture  
and Forestry.

The House passed the naval bill (H.R. 9218) (pp. 4990-4992).

The House also passed three bills, H.R. 7689 (p. 5001-03), H.R.  
7690 (p. 5003) and H.R. 8203 (p. 5013), authorizing additions to the  
Shasta and Klamath National Forests, Calif.; to the Plumas, Tahoe, and  
Lassen National Forests, Calif.; and to the Kaniksu National Forest,  
Washington.

The House Committee on Agriculture reported with amendment H.R.  
9915, making miscellaneous amendments to the Agricultural Adjustment Act  
of 1938 (H. Rept. 1985), and H.R. 8649, to amend the Commodity Exchange  
Act to include wool and other agricultural products traded in for future  
delivery (H. Rept. 1982). It also reported without amendment H.R. 8780,  
to extend the provisions of the act which provides for Federal aid to  
States in wildlife-restoration projects to the District of Columbia or  
any territory or possession of the United States (H. Rept. 1984).

Bills Introduced: in House: By Mr. Luther A. Johnson: H.R. 9959, to  
amend section 381 (a) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 so as  
to authorize immediate payment to farmers of cotton price adjustment of  
1937 crop, authorized under the third deficiency appropriation act; ref.  
Committee on Agriculture; by Mr. Fletcher: H. Res. 449, to provide for  
an investigation by the Census Committee on statistical services of the  
Government, ref. Committee on Rules; by Mr. Crawford: H. J. Res. 625,  
expressing the views of Congress as to a program to continue the use of  
butter for table purposes in the United States institutions and establish-  
ments sustained by the Federal Treasury; ref. Committee on Expenditures  
in the Executive Departments.

Bill Approved by the President: S. 1077, to amend the Federal Trade Commission Act, which among other things provides for control over false advertising of food, drugs, etc. Approved March 21, 1938. (Public No. 447, 75th Congress). (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Poultry                   An editorial in Michigan Farmer (March 12) says in  
Laboratory           part: "Announcement that a regional research laboratory,  
to study ways of improving viability in poultry, will be  
established at East Lansing by the federal government is good news to  
the farmers of Michigan, and is undoubtedly in recognition of the fine  
work already being done along this line at Michigan State College. As  
it will be the coordinating unit and headquarters for a research program  
in which experiment stations in 25 north central and northeastern states  
are to cooperate, several locations were suggested by local interests,  
so Michigan was chosen only after careful study and thought..."

Rough                   "Rough ginning," says an item in Cotton Digest  
Ginning               (March 19) "ranged during the past season from 2.56 per  
cent to 19.39 per cent, a survey by the U. S. Department  
of Agriculture has revealed. Rough ginning in Texas amounted to 5.21  
per cent, and when converted into bales, as related to the Texas crop  
estimate amounts to 272,483, which means that farmers lost slightly more  
than a million dollars in Texas alone, due to rough ginning. This does  
not take into account the loss to ginnermen, who are forced to gin cotton  
which is not in proper condition. It makes manifest the reasons for  
the complaints by spinners, regarding roughly ginned cotton, F. E. Lichte,  
cotton ginning specialist at A. & M. College said."

"Grass  
Is King"               A brief article in Wallaces' Farmer (March 12) says  
in part: "A. C. Shallenberger, veteran Sporthorn breeder,  
died last month on the platform before a feeders' day  
farm crowd at Franklin, Neb. His last address was a tribute to grass.  
After describing experiments with grain sorghums as a corn substitute,  
the former governor of Nebraska had planned to say: 'There is another  
crop which is the backbone of successful and profitable livestock produc-  
tion. That is grass. . . Neither corn, cotton nor wheat is king to the  
farmer. Grass is king.' . . ."

Ultraviolet           Fruit Products Journal (March) includes a paper by  
Radiation           Dr. Harvey C. Rentschler, Director of Research, Westing-  
house Lamp Division, on "The Effects of Ultraviolet Radia-  
tion on Bacteria, Molds and Yeast".



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Section 1

March 24, 1938

REORGANIZATION BILL VOTE      Senate opponents of the Byrnes reorganization bill mustered a multitude of arguments yesterday in an effort to win the third test on the measure today when a vote will be taken to decide whether the Controller General and his office are to be replaced by an Auditor General with considerably curtailed powers. The vote on the last controversial section of the bill will take place at 1 P.M. today after two hours of additional debate. (New York Times.)

WORLD SUGAR PACT SIGNED      President Roosevelt has served notice of ratification of the international sugar agreement signed March 6, 1937, at London, the State Department announced yesterday. Twenty-two nations undertook through the agreement to stabilize the world sugar industry for five years by regulating production of exporting countries. (Associated Press.)

RAISE CCC AGE LIMIT      The House passed and sent to the Senate yesterday a bill sponsored by the Labor Committee, permitting the enrollment in each Civilian Conservation Corps company of five men who are older than the present age limit of 23. It also enables the government to discharge an enrollee within thirty days of the end of his enlistment period. Representative Woodrum of Virginia told the House he had introduced a bill to make available an additional \$50,000,000 for the CCC to permit it to maintain the 300 camps which had been scheduled to close under an economy drive the first of the year. (Press.)

COLOMBIAN COTTON BOARD      A Bogota cable to the New York Times says an executive decree creates a six-man national cotton board to promote the development of the domestic cotton growing and yarn industries. The board is composed of the Ministers of Finance, Industries, Agriculture and Commerce and one representative each of the industries affected. The board will classify and standardize cotton grown in Colombia, experiment to determine the grades to be produced to meet local mill requirements, educate growers and produce a quantity and quality adequate to supply the local demand.

Marketing of Hogs                      Farmers will market more hogs during the remainder of the hog-marketing year that ends September 30.....  
.....than went to market during these months last year according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. The larger supply of market hogs is to a considerable extent offset by the smaller storage stocks of pork and lard on hand. Consumer demand for hog products in the spring and summer of this year, however, will be less favorable than in the same period last year. In view of the high corn-hog ratio in the past six months and the present low level of hog production in many areas, it is expected that the 1938 spring pig crop will be larger than that of 1937. This will mean larger marketing of hogs in the first half (October through March) of the 1938-39 marketing year, than in the same period this season.

Good Diets                      Jane Stafford, Science Service writer, reports on  
Conserve                      diets as a conservation measure. She says in part: "Food,  
Resources                      well chosen and in abundant quantity, is an important feature of any program for conservation of human resources,  
Dr. Hazel K. Stiebeling of the Bureau of Home Economics told a conservation conference recently. 'Fully adequate diets are a conservation measure in the finest sense of the word,' she declared. Such diets, she pointed out, can raise health from levels generally accepted as average or usual to definitely superior planes. Observations on generation after generation of laboratory animals show that superior diets result in more rapid rate of growth in the young, larger size at all ages, better success in rearing the young, greater resistance to infection and longer life. Some short-time observations, Dr. Stiebeling said, tend to show that human animals respond to diets in much the same way as the laboratory animals. The chief difference between these superior diets and the usual inadequate diets is in the amount of the foods nutrition experts call 'protective'. These foods are fruits and green vegetables and milk and milk products (butter, cheese, buttermilk, etc.). Conserving human resources by diet means, Dr. Stiebeling pointed out, increasing the purchase power of low income groups and teaching all groups the importance of eating plenty of fruits, green vegetables and milk."

Road Surface                      A new type of road surface that will "increase visibility very greatly" was reported recently at the seventeenth annual Massachusetts safety conference, says a Boston report by the Associated Press. C.A.B. Halvorson, of Lynn, announced that the new type of road surface was developed during an attempt by the research department of his company to design a surface that would allow drivers to see farther without glare. Crux of the problem, he said, was to get hold of a design that would do its job as well in wet weather as in dry. In his design little cups pit the road at intervals of an inch. Mixed with the indented surface is a substance, such as quartz which gives a high reflectivity.



Senate,  
Mar. 22

The Senate continued debate of the reorganization bill (S. 3331) (pp. 5072-5086-5093 and 5096-5105).

The following amendments were rejected: by Mr. Pittman: exempting the Forest Service from the provisions of the bill (pp. 5072-5078); by Mr. Clark, exempting the following agencies from the provisions of the bill: Bureau of Biological Survey (pp. 5101-5103), Employees Compensation Commission (pp. 5103-5104), Bureau of Animal Industry (p. 5104), Bureau of Public Roads (p. 5104), Soil Conservation Service (p. 5105), Tennessee Valley Authority (p. 5105), Bureau of Chemistry and Soils (p. 5105), and Bureau of Agricultural Economics (p. 5105); specifying the duties and qualifications of the proposed Administrative Assistants to the President (p. 5085); by Mr. Byrd, requiring the President to submit to Congress, with each executive order issued pursuant to the provisions of the bill, "a statement showing the estimated decrease in expenditures that will result \*\*\*" (pp. 5088-5093 and 5096-5101). Messrs. Bulkley and Walsh submitted amendments to the bill (p. 5072).

House,  
Mar. 22

The House, considering the conference report on the Independent Offices Appropriation Bill for 1939 (H.R. 8837) (pp. 5107) agreed to a Senate amendment increasing the item for rural electrification loans from \$30,000,000 to \$40,000,000 (pp. 5108-5117). The House insisted on its disagreement to a Senate amendment to permit use of oleomargarine in Veterans' Hospitals if it is made from products grown in the United States (pp. 5131-5133). Mr. Scott addressed the House in favor of the Group Health Association (pp. 5135-5138).

The House received from the Director of the Civilian Conservation Corps a draft of a proposed bill to amend the act which established the Civilian Conservation Corps; Referred to Committee on Labor (p. 5142).

Bills introduced: in Senate, by Mr. Schwellenbach, S. 3705, to include certain lands in the Kaniksu National Forest, Wash.\*\*\* referred Committee on Public Lands and Survey; by Mr. Bilbo, S. 3706, to establish and promote and use of standard methods of grading cottonseed to provide for the collection and dissemination of information on prices and grades of cottonseed and cottonseed products\*\*\*; referred Committee on Agriculture and Forestry; in House, by Mr. Hook H.R. 9979, to acquire lands in the Ottawa National Forest\*\*\*Michigan; referred Committee on Agriculture.

Items in appendix: statement of C. C. Zimmerman, of Harvard University, before Senate Committee on Unemployment and Relief, March 11, on rural relief (p. 5152); speech in House by Mr. Houston, March 22, favoring increase in appropriation for rural electrification loans (p. 5155); statement of Mr. Connery before Committee for Reciprocity Information, March 22, opposing inclusion of certain articles in the proposed trade agreement with Great Britain (pp. 5161-5162); extension of remarks of Mr. Sirovich, opposing use of oleomargarine. (p. 5168). (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)



**Meat Products Exports** Exports of meat products from the United States in 1937 amounted to 123,639,625 pounds, a decrease of 11,-720,510 pounds from 1936, while imports from foreign sources aggregated 191,906,012 pounds, an increase of 39,447,367 pounds, the Department of Commerce announces. Better supplies of meat products and a generally improved quality resulting from bumper grain crops in 1937, together with lower prices, are expected to increase both the domestic and export trade this year, it was said. Canned beef was the principal item in the meat products group imported into the United States in 1937, amounting to 88,087,133 pounds.

**Wax for Turnips** "A new wrinkle that prevents wrinkles is the wax dip for rutabagas being sold in eastern markets," says the Farm Journal (March). "Rutabagas so treated bring much higher retail prices, because they look fresh, escape drying out in stores. To make the dip, a paraffin wax that melts at 115 to 125 degrees F. is heated to a temperature from 250 to 260 degrees F. Rutabagas are thoroughly scrubbed, cleaned, dried, momentarily dipped in the hot wax. The coating keeps them from wilting and drying out, but does not harm the quality of the vegetable in any way. The wax coat is so thin it can only be detected by the glossy appearance of the surface. Waxing costs are so small that they do not necessitate the additional price now asked for the waxed vegetable on the Boston market...Whether wax will work as well on other vegetables remains to be seen."

**Fertility of Eggs** "Fertile hens' eggs can be identified after less than a day of incubation and the infertile eggs replaced, thus greatly increasing the capacity of the incubator and the efficiency of the hatchery operations," says Thomas H. Bartilson, Bureau of Animal Industry, in Country Gentleman (April). "This has been demonstrated by Olsen and Knox, of the Bureau of Animal Industry, in investigations involving over 4,000 eggs which they candled and then broke to test the accuracy of embryo identification in eggs incubated only a few hours. According to these investigators, such embryos contain no blood, cover an area on the yolk about the size of a dime and appear before the candler as a small spot. The embryo appears as a slight bulge on the surface of the yolk. The infertile eggs show no such development. They found that most eggs required at least 12 hours of incubation before fertile and infertile eggs could be distinguished with reasonable accuracy...Necessary equipment, they say, consists of but an ordinary egg candler equipped with a 75-watt bulb, but that identification can be made easier by using a daylight bulb or a blue-green bulb, or by the operator wearing a pair of ordinary blue-tinted sun glasses." An editorial note says: "The foregoing is another interesting proof that many scientific workers are seeking ways to better poultry methods."



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Section 1

March 25, 1938

C. & O. CANAL      Secretary of Interior Harold L. Ickes yesterday  
BOUGHT BY      confirmed reports that the historic Chesapeake & Ohio  
GOVERNMENT      Canal will be acquired by the Federal Government, revealing that the full 185-mile length of the waterway will be taken over by the National Park Service. He said the Cumberland-Washington canal will be restored for recreational purposes and as a possible route for the Washington-Lincoln Memorial Gettysburg boulevard. The canal and all appurtenant land will become Federal property. (Washington Post.)

REORGANIZATION      A Senate showdown on the Administration bill for re-  
BILL VOTE      organization of executive departments yesterday was scheduled for Monday. The test will come on the motion of Senator Walsh (Mass.) to recommit the measure to the special Senate committee that has nursed it for almost a year. By unanimous consent agreement, the body will vote on the Walsh motion at 3 P.M. If that motion fails the fight will go forward for two more hours and a final vote on passage of the bill will be taken at 5 P.M. (Baltimore Sun.)

PACKAGING      The packaging, packing and shipping industries are  
CONFERENCE      preparing for a business upturn by developing machinery, processes, materials and merchandising ideas designed to bring about a stimulus in orders, according to Alvin E. Dodd, president of the American Management Association, sponsors of the National Packaging Exposition and Conference, which concluded its sessions at Chicago last night. "The packaging industry has felt the business recession less than most others," Mr. Dodd said. "It is following the advice of specialists who advocate hard work and ingenuity in developing more attractive packages. Its research experts have also been extremely active in perfecting materials of lightness, durability and impervious to weather....." (New York Times.)

COTTON LOANS      The Commodity Credit Corporation announced yesterday that the time for applying for Government loans on 1937-produced cotton had been extended from March 31 to July 1. (Associated Press.)

CANADIAN TRADE      Representatives of more than 100 industries are scheduled to appear at hearings beginning April 4 to testify on reciprocal trade negotiations between the United States and Canada, the Committee for Reciprocity information announced last night. (United Press.)

Pea Weevil Control      "The control of pea weevil on commercial scale plantings was achieved the past year by growers of 22,000 acres of peas in Umatilla County, Oregon," says F. L. Ballard, vice director of the Oregon Experiment Station, in Country Gentleman (April). "...So successful has been the inception of the industry that processing equipment valued at nearly \$5,000,000 has been established in the general area...Entomologists at the Oregon Experiment Station had developed a successful control for pea aphid in the coast counties. Rotenone as liquid spray, applied under high pressure, controlled aphid... Economical applications to the weevil infestation was a problem, but agricultural engineers of the Oregon Experiment Station constructed a hood type duster mounted on trucks and driven by automobile motors... Practically all the growers and canning companies constructed these dust-ers. Very good control was obtained, in many fields up to 100 percent."

Root Pressure      American Journal of Botany (March) includes the text on Sap in Plants of the paper on "Root Pressure"--An Unappreciated Force in Sap Movement, which Dr. Philip R. White presented at the Indianapolis meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The association prize was awarded to Dr. White on the basis of this contribution.

Bombardment of Seeds      Bombardment of seeds with fast neutrons from a cyclotron produces abnormalities in the leaves and other parts after they sprout, reports Roy Milton Chatters of the University of Michigan, in the current issue of Science. In some of the leaves one whole side would be missing, in others, normally entire leaves would be deeply lobed, each lobe with a distinct midvein. The cotyledons or seed leaves were sometimes cleft and they were usually sprinkled with minute white dots. The seeds, which included those of evening primrose, cactus, snapdragon, and one or two other genera, were exposed alongside the "tank" of the cyclotron, suitably shielded, for periods of from one to nine weeks. Some of them had their germinating capacity considerably reduced but others showed as high germinating powers after prolonged exposure as they did before. (Science Service, March 19.)

✓ Forest Tree Planting      Recognition of forest tree planting in the 1938 agricultural conservation program has increased the demand for tree seedlings, according to J. B. Toler, forester of the Mississippi Extension Service, Toler reports that during the past two months over one million seedlings have been planted by farmers. He anticipates the planting of several million additional plants during the next 30 days. Arrangements have been made, he said, to furnish Mississippi farmers with tree seedlings from the nursery in North Mississippi. Loblolly pine, black locust and slash pine have been in greater demand than other species, he said.



Senate, The Senate continued debate on the reorganization  
Mar. 23 bill (S. 3331) (pp. 5216-5236 and 5238-5269).

Both Houses received from the Archivist a list of papers in the Department of Agriculture which should be disposed of; referred Committees on Disposition of Papers in the Executive Departments.

House, The House passed with amendments H.R. 9915 making  
Mar. 23 several amendments to the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (pp. 5188-5202).

Items in appendix: address of Dr. Alexander, Administrator, Farm Security Administration, at presentation of first tenant check, Jasper, Ala., February 12, 1938 (pp. 5271-5272); radio address of Mr. Pettengill, March 19, opposing the reorganization bill (pp. 5282-5284); extension of remarks of Mr. Lord, of N.Y., on H.R. 9915, amendments to Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (p. 5289); extension of remarks of Mr. Murdock, entitled "Justice to New Cotton Lands on the Fringes of the Cotton Empire" (pp. 5289-5290). (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Cotton Cloth Production Finding that cotton cloth production at slightly less than 9,000,000,000 square yards established a new record last year, W. Ray Bell, president of the Association of Cotton Textile Merchants of New York, declared recently that the achievement of the new record volume was marred by adverse circumstances on distribution during the latter half of the year. Mr. Bell, in a statement in connection with the issuance of the association's annual chart comparing cotton goods data, entitled "Ten Years of Cotton Textiles", noted that peak demand was reached in the first quarter. (Press.)

Soil Testing Methods "New methods of soil testing, enabling a farmer to gauge within workable and practical limits what his soil lacks in available plant food, seems to be a reality," says Missouri Ruralist (March 19). "These tests, developed mainly at the Wisconsin College of Agriculture, have not been widely used in Missouri, but an example of what can be done was shown on the soil testing train last summer. Tests were made on that train for phosphorus, potash, calcium and acidity. Recently a fertilizer company equipped its salesmen with testing kits, and with a variety of chemicals to make tests for many other soil deficiencies. These tests may or may not be 100 percent perfect, but in states other than Missouri they have been considered workably accurate. Since the tests are made free and require not more than 15 minutes, it will be found interesting to many farmers to have these made-while-you-wait analyses on their various fields. Fertilizer recommendations which follow the showing of the tests considered together with previous treatment of the land, rather than what is supposed to be best for a given crop, will have a tryout this year on a variety of crops, garden, as well as field..."



President on Forestry "President Roosevelt's well-known interest in forestry is reflected in his special message to Congress urging House and Senate to establish a joint committee to study ways of solving the problems of national forest conservation," says an editorial in the Los Angeles Times (March 16). "...As Chief Executive of the nation, one of his earliest moves was the sponsoring of a country-wide investigation in the same field. One product of that study, incidentally, was one of the most exhaustive reports ever turned out by the Department of Agriculture--a two-volume, 1700-page document that has become a handbook for forest conservationists everywhere. The denudation of forest areas without proper provision for restoration, the President points out in his message, is a threat to national prosperity. Despite all our progress in reforestation and forest protection, timber is still being logged, or lost through preventable causes, much faster than it is being replaced. 'Our forest budget,' as he aptly puts it, 'still needs balancing'..."

Seeding Alfalfa "The standard rate of seeding alfalfa as recommended by the Ohio Experiment Station is 10 to 12 pounds of alfalfa seed per acre," says an editorial in Hoard's Dairyman (March 25). "Prof. C. J. Willard of the Department of Agronomy has suggested as low as 7 1/2 pounds of seed per acre. He has results which indicate that this rate of seeding will produce a yield of hay on only 2 to 3 percent less than that produced by 10 pounds. When alfalfa seed is plentiful and can be purchased at a reasonable price, it is perhaps better to use more seed and not put so much time on preparing the seedbed. With the present shortage and high price of alfalfa seed, we believe it would be economy to use less seed than has been the practice and to put extra work into preparing a firm and well prepared seedbed--one that is free from lumps. The cultipacker is a good implement to use after the land has been disced and harrowed, to firm the seedbed and prepare it for the reception of the alfalfa seed. If the seed is broadcast it is better to apply it by sowing it lengthwise and crosswise of the field. After sowing the alfalfa seed the land should again be cultipacked..."

Japan to Buy U.S. Lumber The Ministry of Commerce and Industry, giving American trade preferred treatment, recently authorized importation of 34,000,000 board feet of lumber from the United States, says a Tokyo report by the Associated Press. The Government sanctioned the organization of a Japan-American lumber import association to distribute the timber. It was one of the first large import licenses issued since war-time import and export control was instituted in October.

Mobile Customs Foreign trade of the Mobile customs district gained \$29,113 513 in 1937, an increase of 20 percent over the previous year. This is believed to be the largest gain for any American port last year. (Press.)



# DAILY DIGEST

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Section 1

March 28, 1938

TOBACCO AND COTTON QUOTAS      Increases in cotton and tobacco quotas under the new Farm Act won approval of the Senate Friday, along with a number of other amendments to the Agriculture Adjustment Act of 1938. The quota increases amounted to four percent for cotton and tobacco above the total previously announced by the Secretary of Agriculture. Senators said this added about 1,000,000 acres to the 25,000,000 cotton acreage and about 28,000,000 pounds to the flue-cured tobacco quota of 705,000,000 pounds. (Associated Press.)

BILL WOULD EXTEND RFC      The bill introduced by Senator Glass broadening the authority of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to extend aid to industry and permitting it to resume self-liquidating loans to public bodies has the approval of President Roosevelt, Jesse H. Jones, chairman of the RFC, stated in a letter to Senator Glass which the latter made public Saturday. Under the Glass bill, offered as an amendment to the RFC Act, the RFC would have authority to make loans or to purchase securities of industries on a broader scale and over longer periods than the statute now provides. (New York Times.)

CONSERVATION OF WILDLIFE      The success of National Wildlife Restoration Week exceeded the greatest expectations of its sponsors, declared Dr. Ira N. Gabrielson, chief of the Biological Survey, to a group of conservationists Friday. Gabrielson, who was highly praised by Senator Key Pittman, of Nevada, for his "good work" as head of the Biological Survey, stated that the American conservation movement had been making "the biggest advance in its history." He lauded the Pittman-Robertson act, providing for Federal aid to States setting up wildlife refuges. Asserting that the refuge program must be completed, Gabrielson expressed the need for another two or three million acres of land to be added to the six to eight million acres already set aside for refuges. (Washington Post.)

LOANS ON COTTON      The Commodity Credit Corporation announced yesterday that loans under the 1937-38 cotton loan program would be available to producers until July 1. The loans will be available to producers through banks and other lending agencies or directly from Commodity Credit Corporation and at RFC loan agencies, as in the past. Under the original instructions, loans would not have been available after March 31. (Press.)



Soil Erosion  
Control

Sir Daniel Hall is author of "Soil Erosion: the Growth of the Desert in Africa and Elsewhere", an address in Nature (London, March 5). He says in part: "A large amount of work is now being done in the United States to control gulleying and to reclaim the devastated land...The Soil Conservation Service in the United States is bringing into play all the resources of science and engineering to repair the damage which had been inflicted upon the land of the United States by hasty exploitation. I would instance the Civilian Conservation Corps, that inspiration of President Roosevelt's, which in 1932...gathered some 300,000 of the youth of America for service and set them to work to clean up the countryside. They were turned on to fire-prevention work in the forests, to checking erosion, to road making and vermin destruction in the national parks, to various forms of reclamation and salvage work--the corps itself being the most magnificent piece of human salvage this generation has known. One cannot but think that it would be of value to the population of Britain if all our young men could be conscripted for six months of their life to carry out public work for the improvement of our countryside."

Chemical  
Seasoning  
of Fir

The Timberman (February) contains "Chemical Seasoning of Douglas Fir" by W. Karl Loughborough, Forest Products Laboratory, Forest Service. He says: "As a result of the preliminary article on the Forest Products Laboratory method of seasoning wood with chemicals, which appeared in the Timberman, September, 1936, considerable interest has been manifested in the subject by the lumber industry..Special processes involving various chemicals and drying methods, it seems, must be developed for each industry." A summary says: "Several items of Douglas fir have been satisfactorily chemical seasoned on a laboratory scale green from the saw to a moisture content of 7 percent, which is a degree of seasoning not normally attained in use. Cross-arms, 3 x 12 flat-sawed planks, 6 x 12 side-cut timbers, and 12 x 12 boxed-heart timbers were dried to a moisture content of 15 percent practically free of seasoning blemishes in 7, 6, 26 and 96 days respectively. The cost of chemical seasoning the smaller items would probably be less than the cost of air drying or kiln drying them to the same standard of quality and moisture content. Although the cost of chemically seasoning large items, such as boxed-heart 12 x 12's, would probably be greater than the cost of air drying them, the quality of the chemically seasoned timbers is vastly superior."

Sugar Cane  
Varieties

"Five varieties of disease-resistant sugar cane, furnished by the Bureau of Plant Industry, have been tested at the Coast Station," says the Progressive Farmer (April). "Supt. Kyzer reports that the five varieties--C.O.290, Cayawa, C.P. 807, P.O.J. 213 and C.O. 281--were all disease-resistant and adapted to lower Carolina...Many farmers are trying out various resistant kinds in the hope that sugar cane may again be grown successfully."



Senate,  
March 24                      The Senate continued debate on the reorganization bill (S. 3331) (pp. 5293-5320). The following amendment was agreed to: by Mr. Walsh, permitting the Civil Service Advisory Board to initiate investigations and report regarding personnel administration, instead of doing so only at the request of the President or Congress (pp. 5312-5313).

The Senate agreed that if there is objection to S. 3668, making several amendments to the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, during the call of the calendar, that bill will be taken up immediately afterwards (p. 5320).

in House,  
Bill introduced: by Mr. Lenke, H.J.Res. 629, extending to November 1, 1939, the 3-year period in which farmer debtors, filed under section 75 of the bankruptcy act, may refinance their indebtedness; referred Committee on Judiciary.

Item in appendix: extension of remarks of Mr. Snell, comparing imports of farm products in 1937 and 1932 (p. 5377).

Senate,  
March 25                      The Senate passed with amendments H.R. 9915, making several amendments to the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938. (pp. 5484 and 5487-5491).

Considering bills on the calendar, the Senate passed the following: S.Res. 167, requesting the Secretary of Agriculture to investigate flax-seed prices (p. 5443); S. 3052 providing for punishment of persons transporting stolen animals in interstate commerce (p. 5446). S.J.Res. 256, amending the joint resolution making funds available to control incipient or emergency outbreaks of insect pests or plant diseases (Public Resolution No. 20, 75th Congress) (pp. 5462-5463); H.J.Res. 567, requesting the President to invite the International Seed Testing Association to hold its ninth Congress in the United States in 1940 (p. 5465) (this bill will now be sent to the President). The following bills were passed over after brief discussion: H.R. 7836 to amend the Agricultural Adjustment Act by including hops (p. 5440); and S. 3105 to amend the Commodity Exchange Act to include wool and other agricultural commodities traded in for future delivery (p. 5444).

The Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry reported with amendments S. 3174 to provide that crops needed for seeding purposes in 1938 shall be released from liens required in 1937 (p. 5418).

The Select Committee on Government Organization reported without recommendation H.R. 8202, to provide for the reorganization of government agencies, to establish a Department of Welfare, etc. (p. 5418). The Senate recessed until Monday, The House adjourned until Monday.

Bill introduced: in House, by Mr. Mansfield, H.R. 10027 to provide for regional conservation and development of national resources; referred Committee on Rivers and Harbors.

Item in appendix: extension of remarks of Mr. Clark and Mr. Coffee on reorganization (p. 5505). (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

"Tourist Sheep" Oregon Farmer (March 17) says that "Columbia County has a considerable income from tourist sheep as well as human tourists. Its regular ovine population is about 3,000, in small farm flocks, but last summer it had ranging on 50,000 acres of its cutover mountain areas some 16,500 head from eastern Oregon and it not only collected its portion of the taxes on the animals for the months during which they were its 'guests', but it sold their owners some \$6,000 worth of groceries, gasoline, hired help and other necessities--about 10 cents per ewe, County Agent George Nelson estimates. Nelson is secretary of the range board in charge of the project, the purpose of which, of course, is to utilize cutover land at least till it comes back into timber production. The range is divided into allotments, sufficient usually for 1,000 ewes and their lambs."

Packer Saves Soil R. U. Blasingame, Pennsylvania State College, says: "...In recent years there have appeared on the market small soil packers which trail the tractor plow. There is one with six packer wheels which covers the swath of a two-bottom tractor plow. A packer for a three-plow tractor has eight packer wheels, and a four-plow job has ten wheels. These packers may be loaded with a sack of soil or sand if extra weight is needed to level clay soils...Soil packers are rarely seen in the Central Pennsylvania district (where I have observed wind erosion) yet on the same type of soil 100 miles east, near Philadelphia, they are common. It apparently is due to differences in types of farming. Farmers in the vicinity of Philadelphia are engaged in growing vegetables for the New York, Boston, Washington, and home markets. In that type of agriculture the growers very early adopted power equipment to meet competition. These farmers rarely have meadows, nor do they grow horse feed. It requires a tractor to plow and trail a soil packer. In my opinion, the general farmers outside metropolitan districts will find it advantageous to use this system eventually."

Farm Building Plan Catalog A catalog of plans for farm buildings has recently been issued by the Bureau of Agricultural Engineering, in cooperation with agricultural colleges in the northeastern states. These plans were chosen to meet the needs of northeastern dairymen. Some 27 layouts of dairy stables accompanied by 21 detail sheets are presented. The catalog contains plans for 117 farm structures. It may be purchased from the Supt. of Documents, Washington, for 30 cents. Large size, working drawings are available at cost, 15 cents a print, from the extension agricultural engineer at the state colleges of agriculture in the northeastern states. (Hoard's Dairyman, March 25.)